JACK KIRBY
DC
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
OF SUPER TOWN!
TRY THE BOOM TUBE-- IF YOU DARE!

THE
FOREVER
PEOPLE

"FINDER BEAMS," MOONRIDER! --DARKSEID'S ABOUT TO CANCEL US OUT!! BUT, TOTALLY!!
SONNY! USE MOTHER BOX TO PROTECT US! SHE'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!

THE FOREVER PEOPLE

JACK KIRBY

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THE FOREVER PEOPLE BY JACK KIRBY

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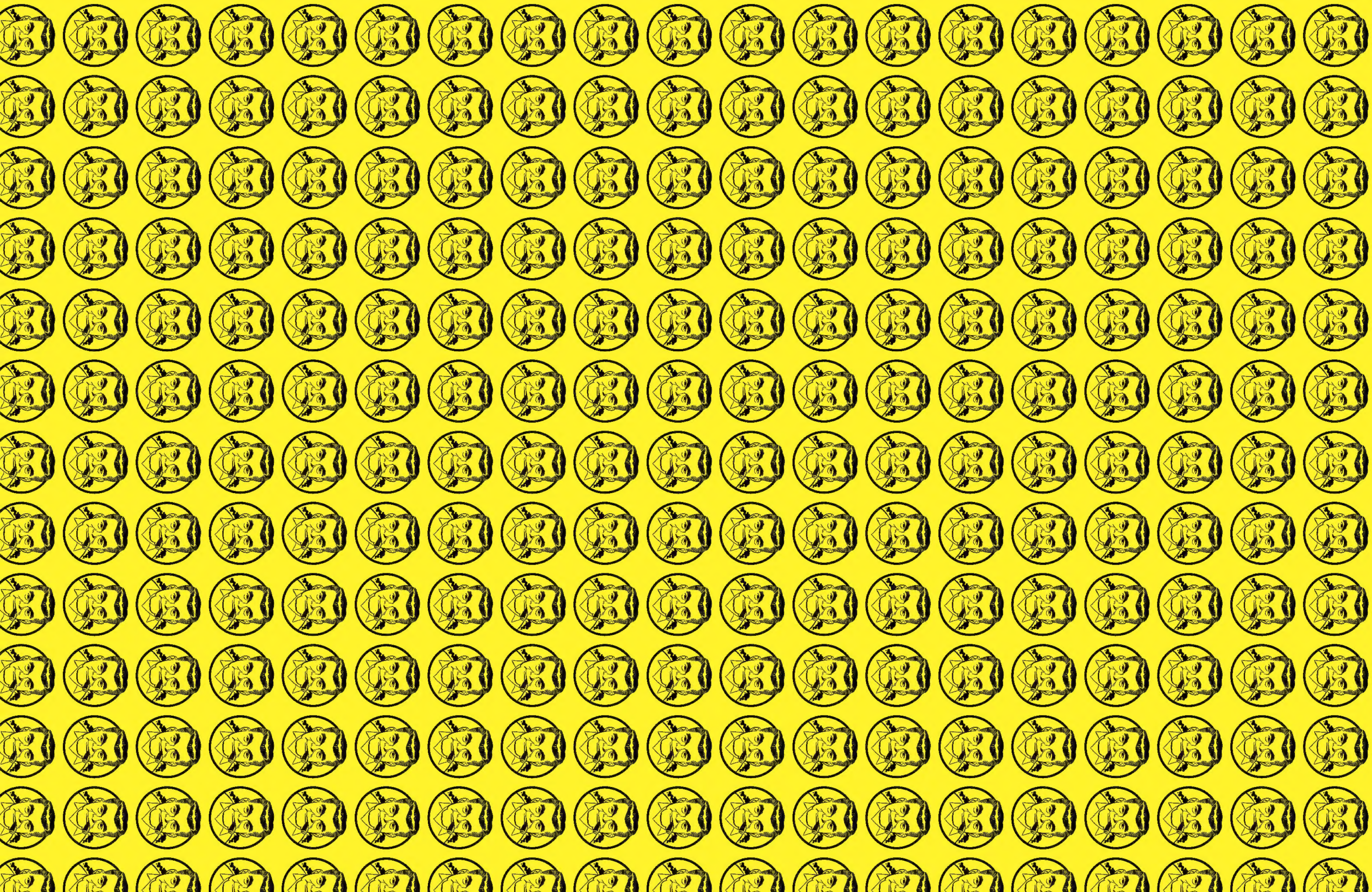
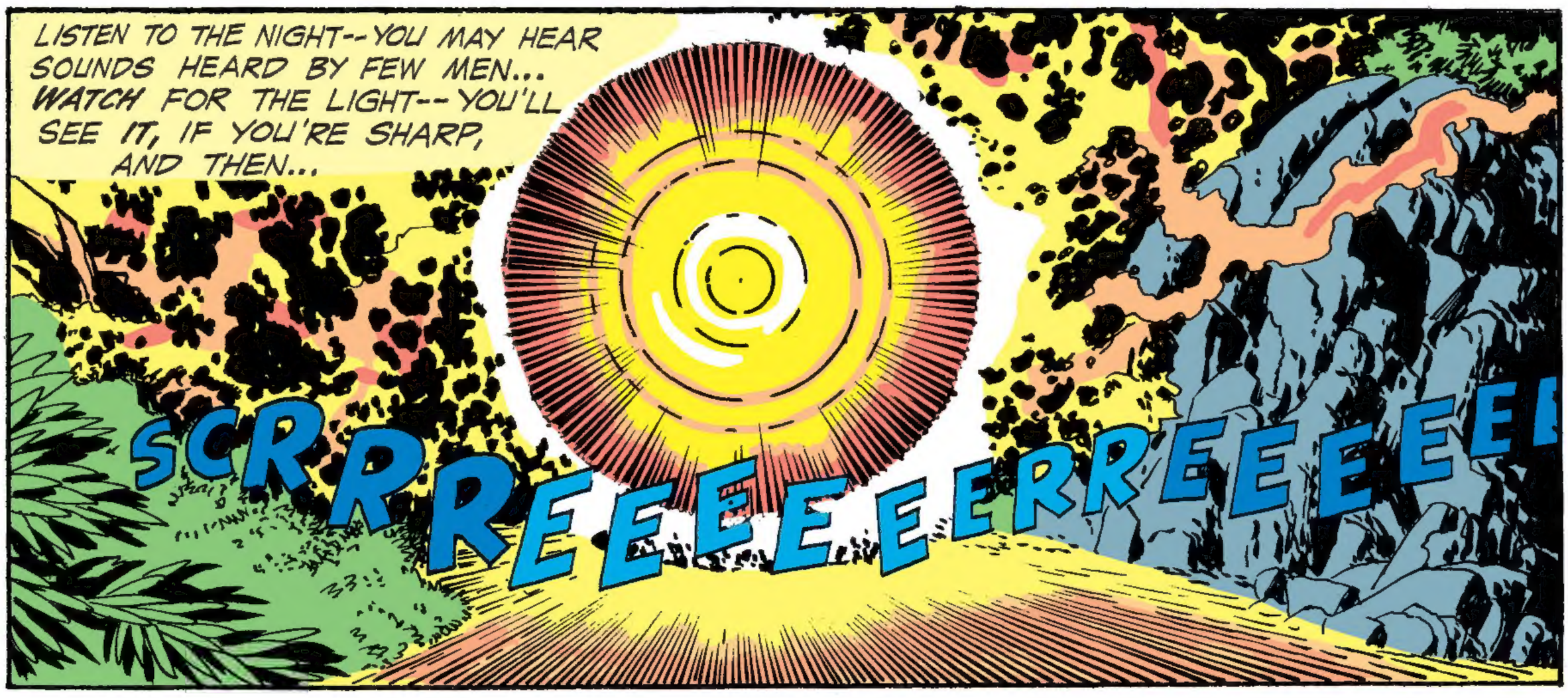
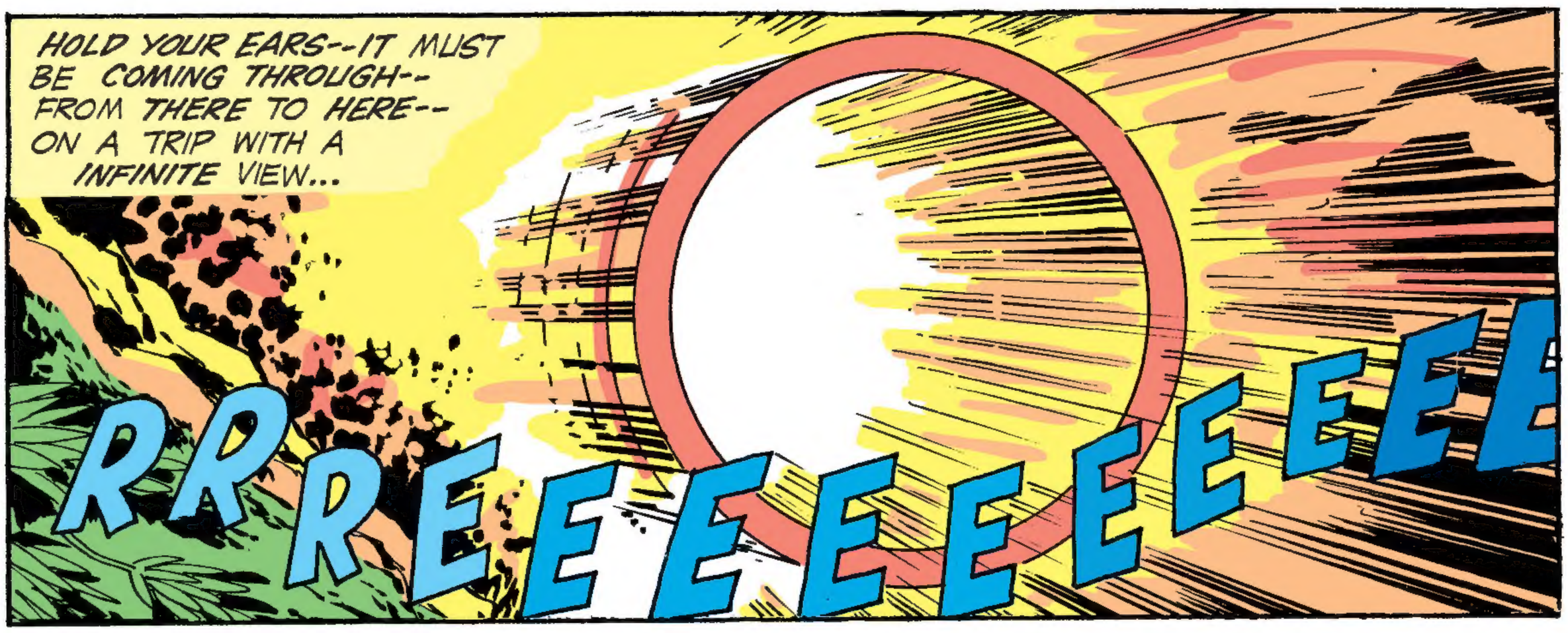
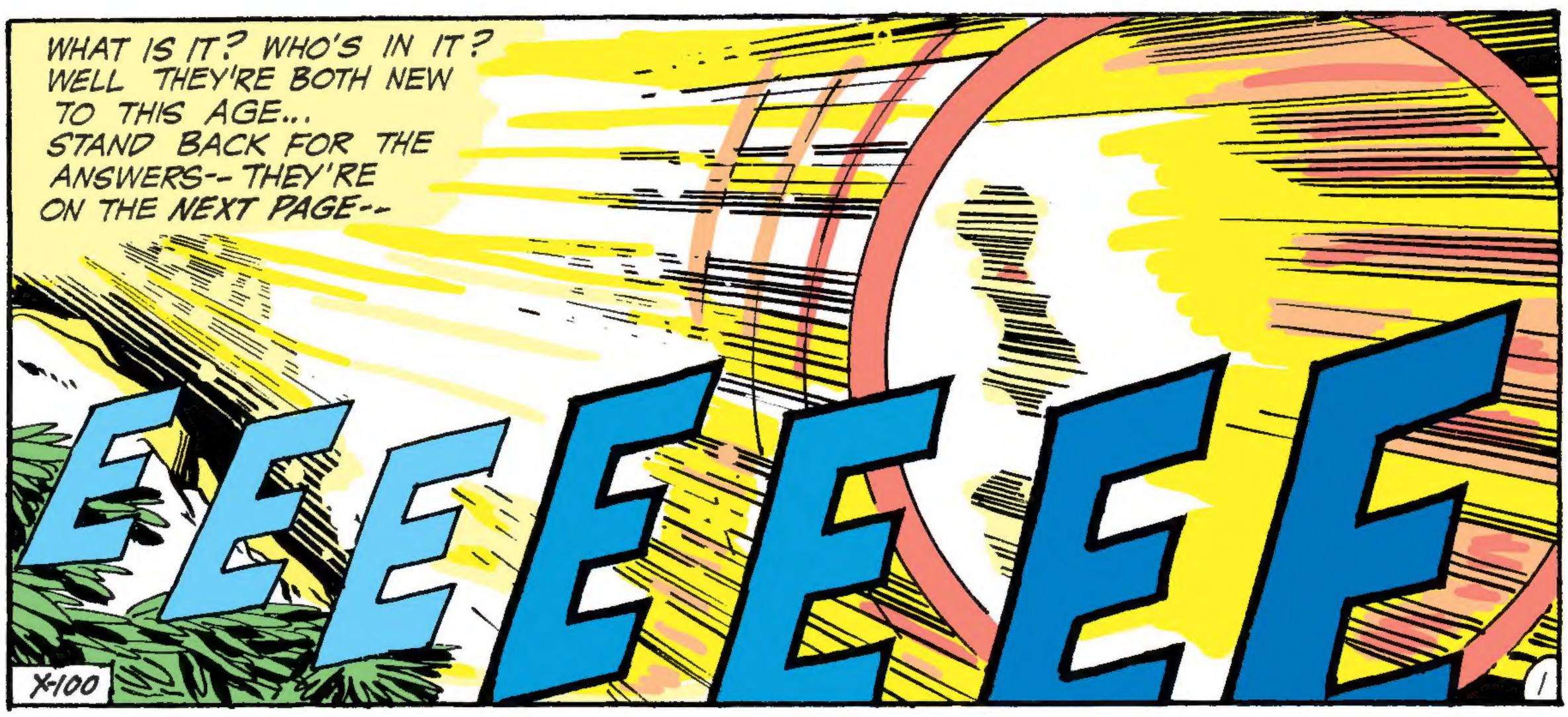
ARU!

DC THE FOREVER PEOPLE
THE FOREVER PEOPLE OF SUPER TOWN
MAR. NO. 1
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THEY BELONG TO SUNRISE-- THEY'RE HERE IN MID-DAY-- TO STOP THE DARK SPREAD OF NIGHT!
KIRBY'S HERE!
WAIT! THIS IS MY ONLY CHANCE TO FIND MY OWN KIND! YOU MUST TELL ME HOW TO REACH SUPERTOWN!
TRY THE BOOM TUBE-- IF YOU DARE!
BEAUTIFUL DREAMER
ALSO, A BIG BONUS GUEST STAR-- SUPERMAN!

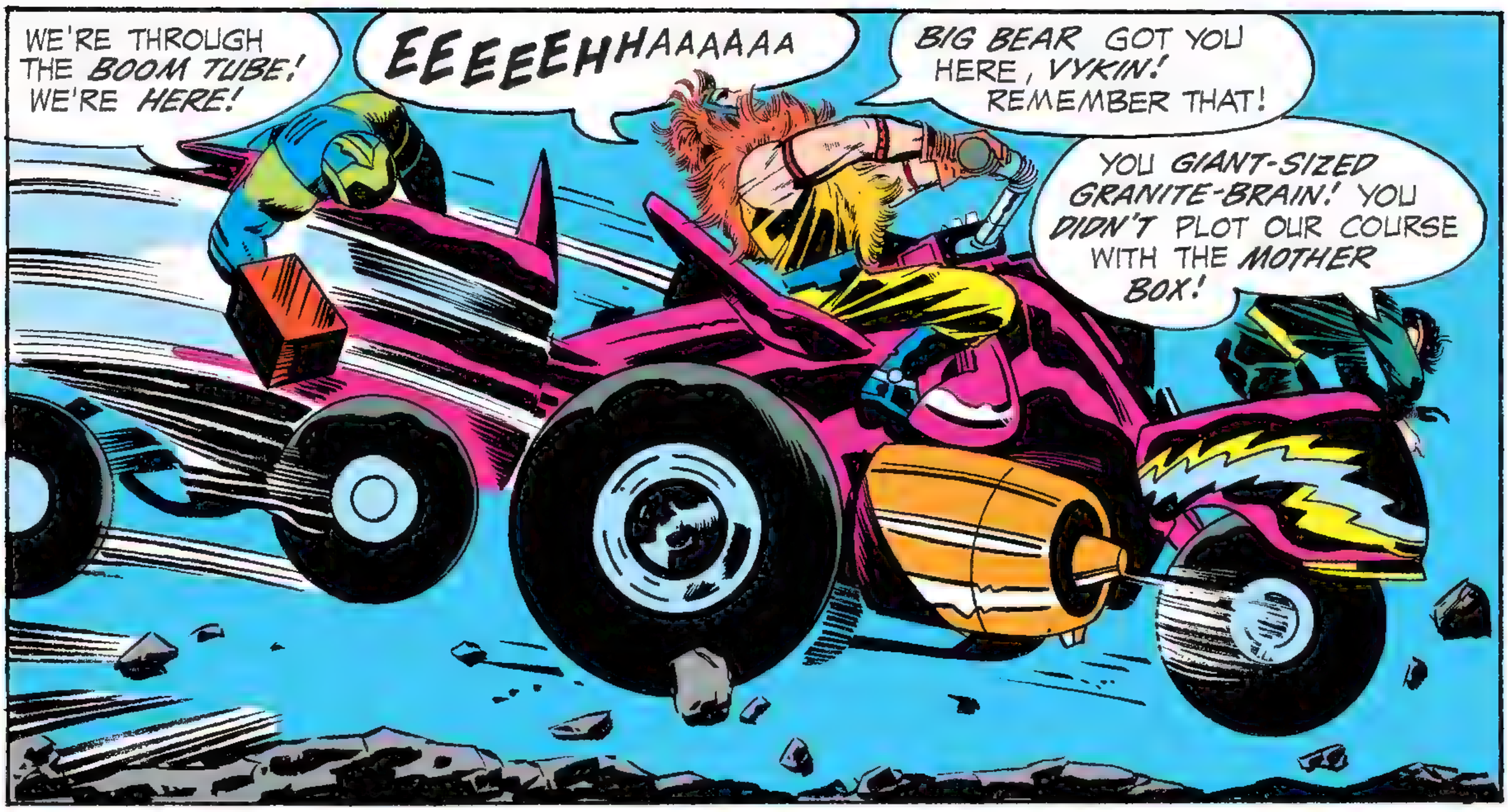


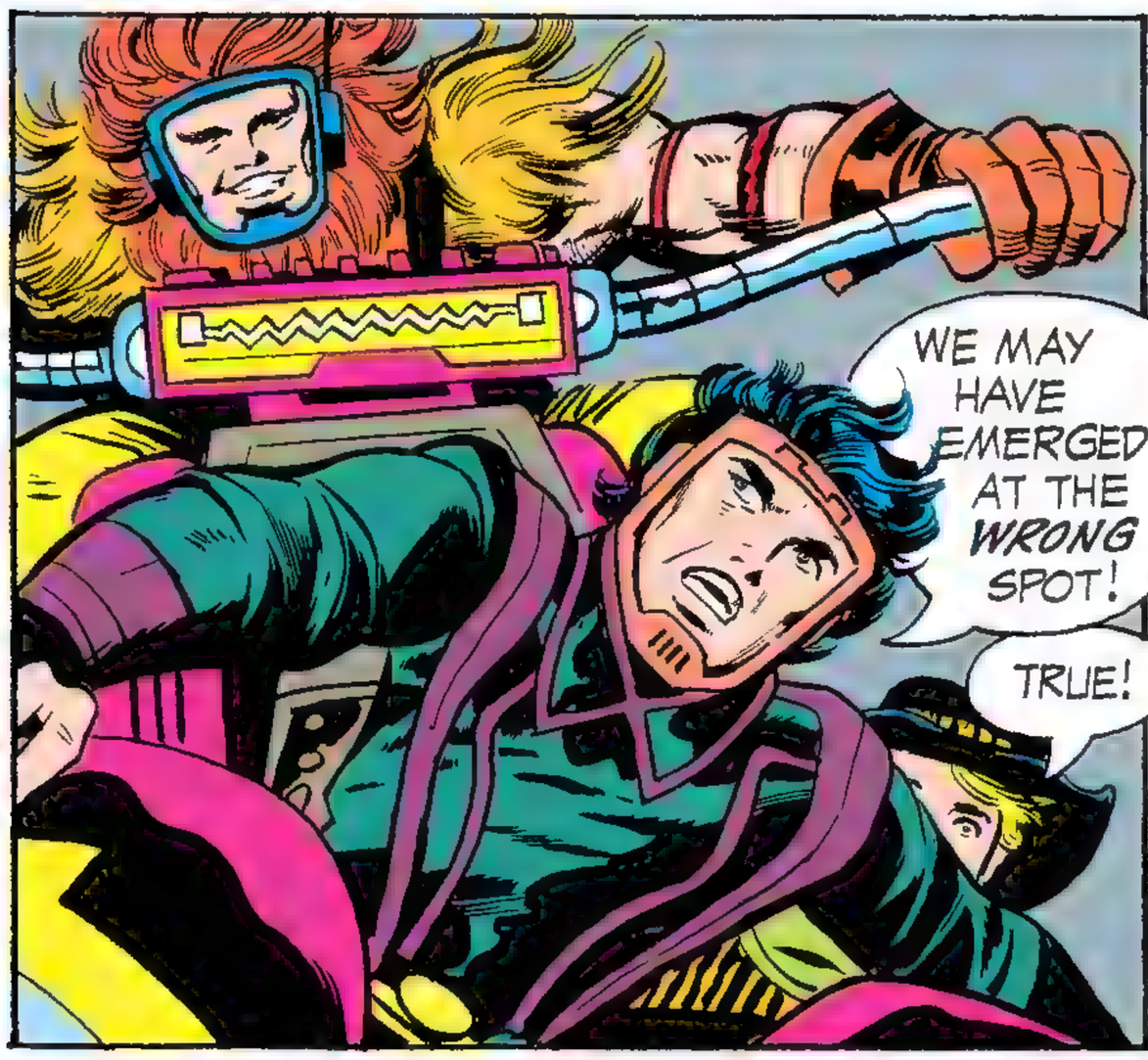

LISTEN TO THE NIGHT--YOU MAY HEAR SOUNDS HEARD BY FEW MEN... WATCH FOR THE LIGHT--YOU'LL SEE IT, IF YOU'RE SHARP, AND THEN...
SCRRREEEEERREEEEEE

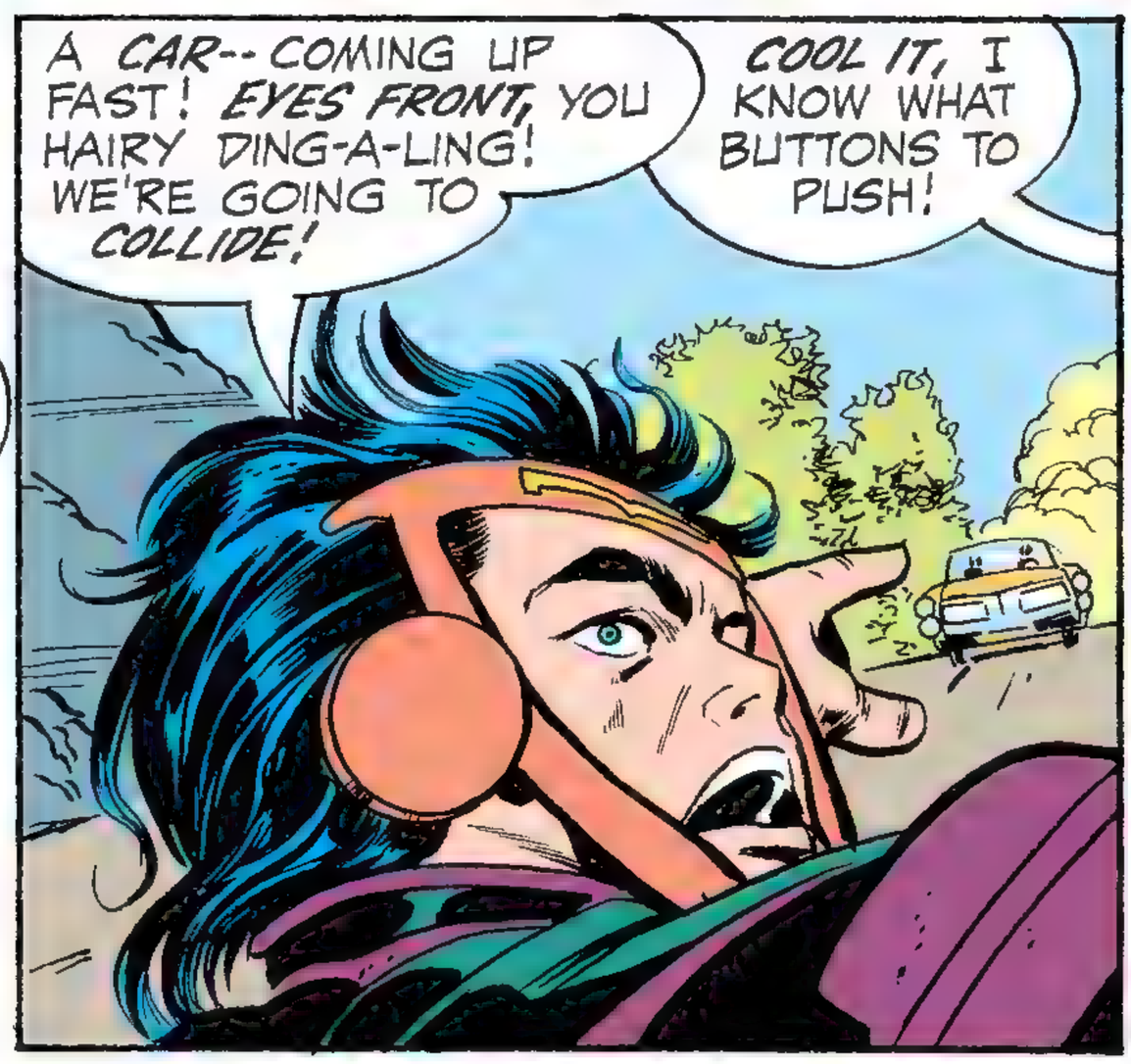

HOLD YOUR EARS--IT MUST BE COMING THROUGH-- FROM THERE TO HERE-- ON A TRIP WITH A INFINITE VIEW...
RRREEEEEEEEEE

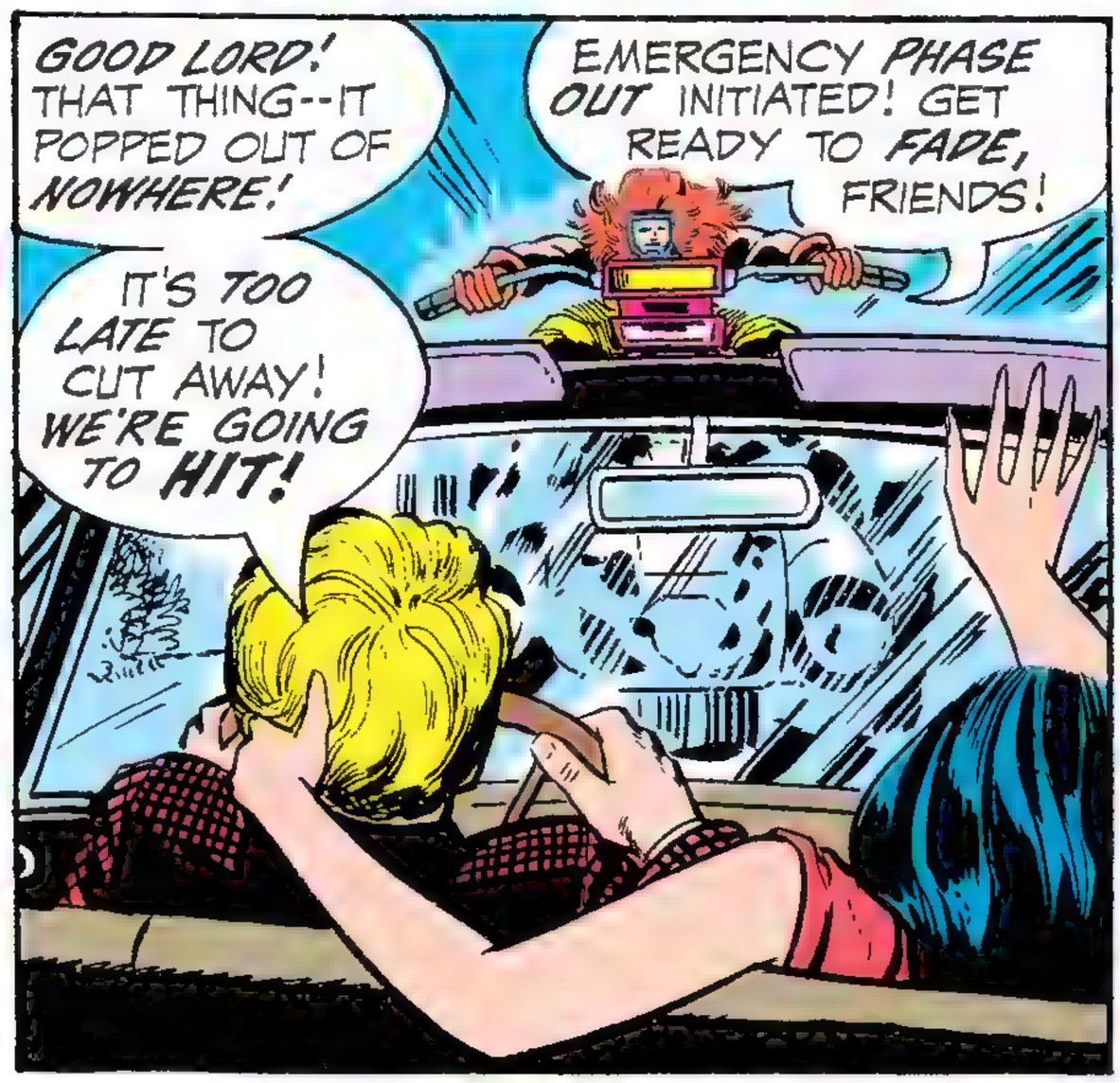

WHAT IS IT? WHO'S IN IT? WELL THEY'RE BOTH NEW TO THIS AGE... STAND BACK FOR THE ANSWERS-- THEY'RE ON THE NEXT PAGE--
EEEEEEEEEE
X-100
1

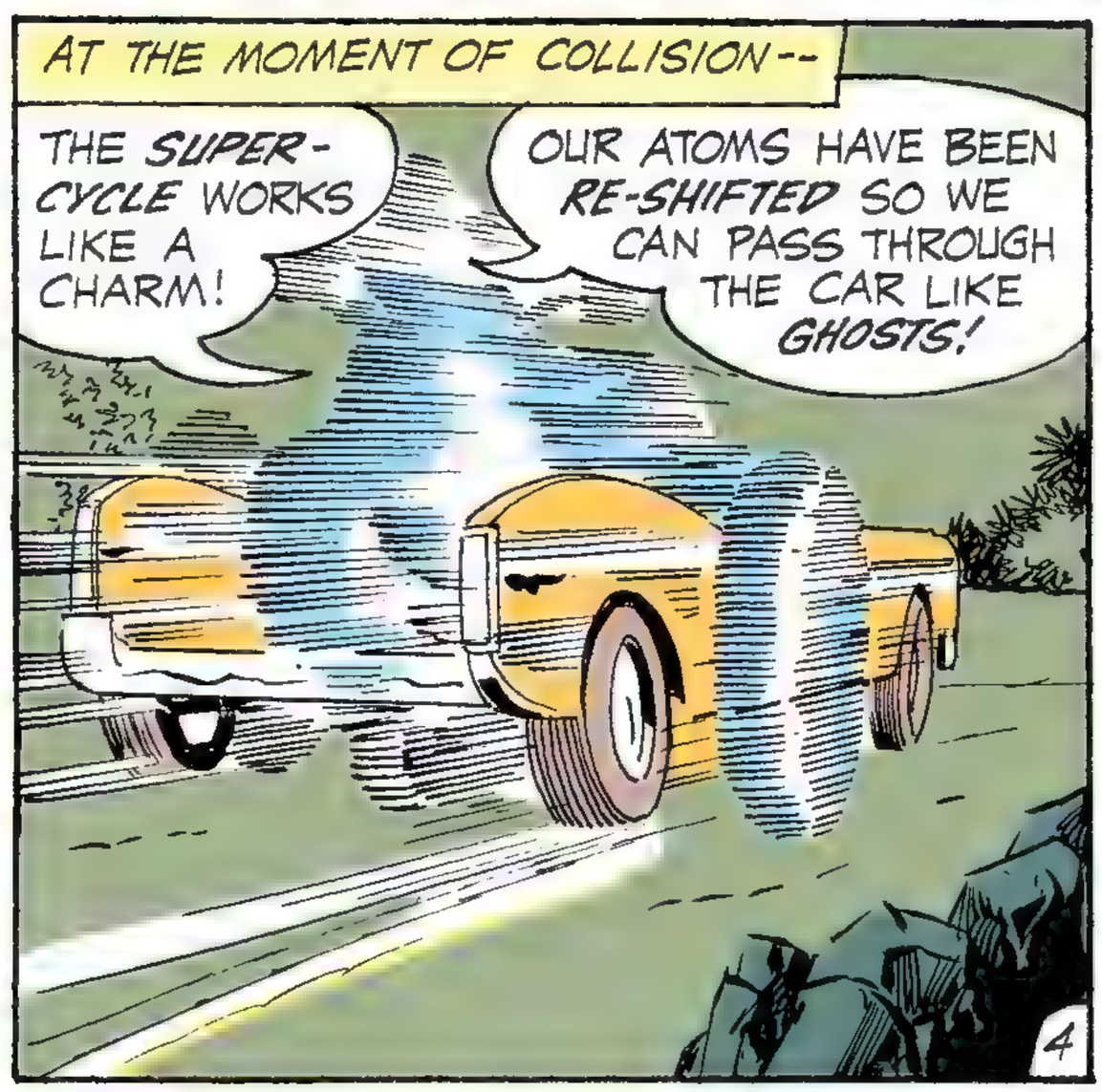
The FOREVER PEOPLE!
THEY'RE FROM A PLACE THAT MEN HAVE SOUGHT, BUT NEVER FOUND-- WE'VE SEEN THEIR LIKE BEFORE-- IN DIFFERENT AGES-- IN DIFFERENT GUISE-- BUT NEVER LIKE THIS-- YET, ALWAYS LIKE THIS-- WHEN MAN'S CIVILIZATION FACES DESTRUCTION...
RRAAAAAA
IN SEARCH OF A DREAM!
EDITED, DRAWN AND WRITTEN by JACK KIRBY (OUR MAN IN THE BOOM TUBE)
INKED BY: VINCE COLLETTA
GUEST-STARRING THE IMMORTAL SUPERMAN

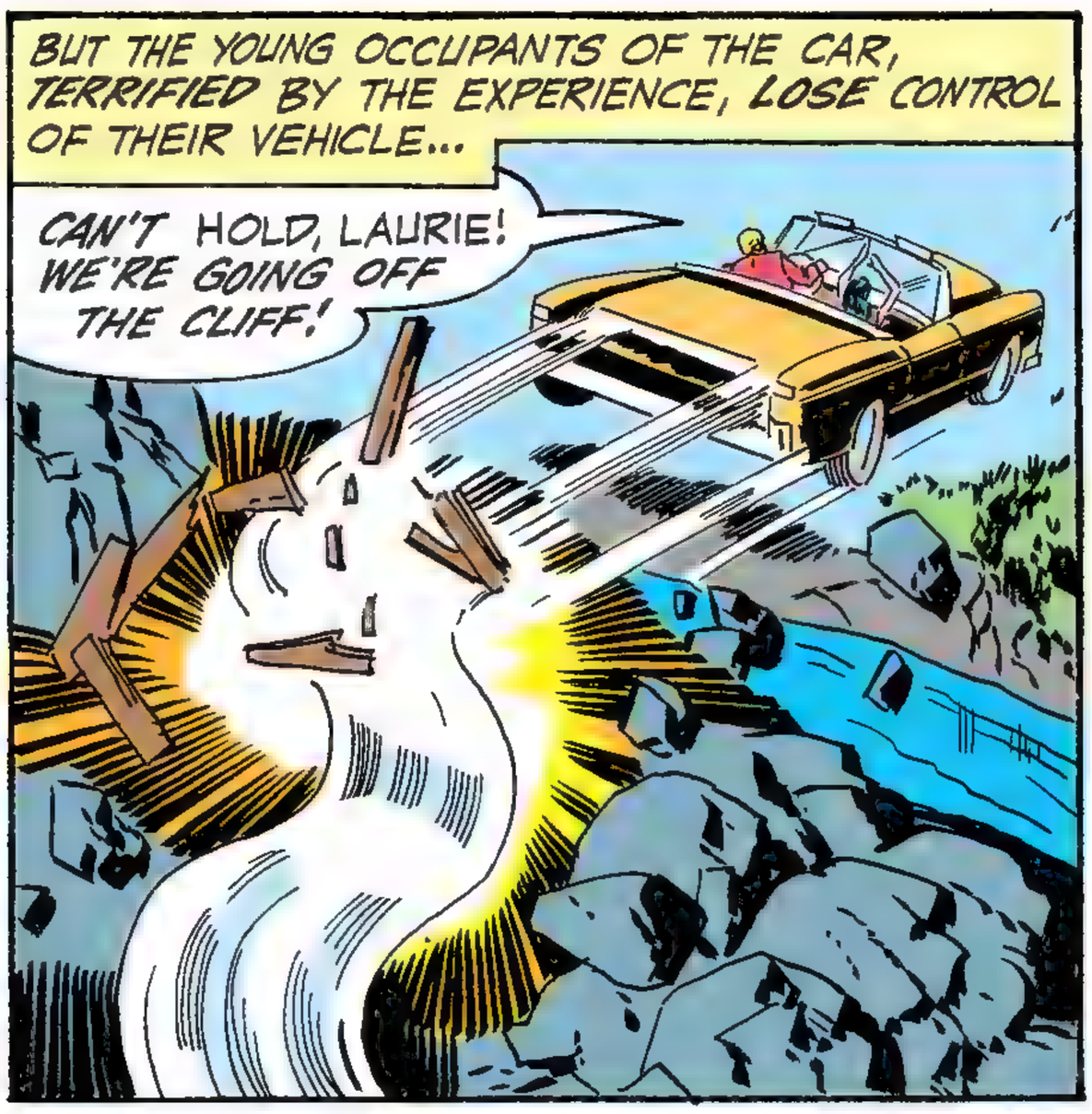

WE'RE THROUGH THE BOOM TUBE! WE'RE HERE!
EEEEEHHAAAAAA
BIG BEAR GOT YOU HERE, VYKIN! REMEMBER THAT!
YOU GIANT-SIZED GRANITE-BRAIN! YOU DIDN'T PLOT OUR COURSE WITH THE MOTHER BOX!


WE MAY HAVE EMERGED AT THE WRONG SPOT!
TRUE!

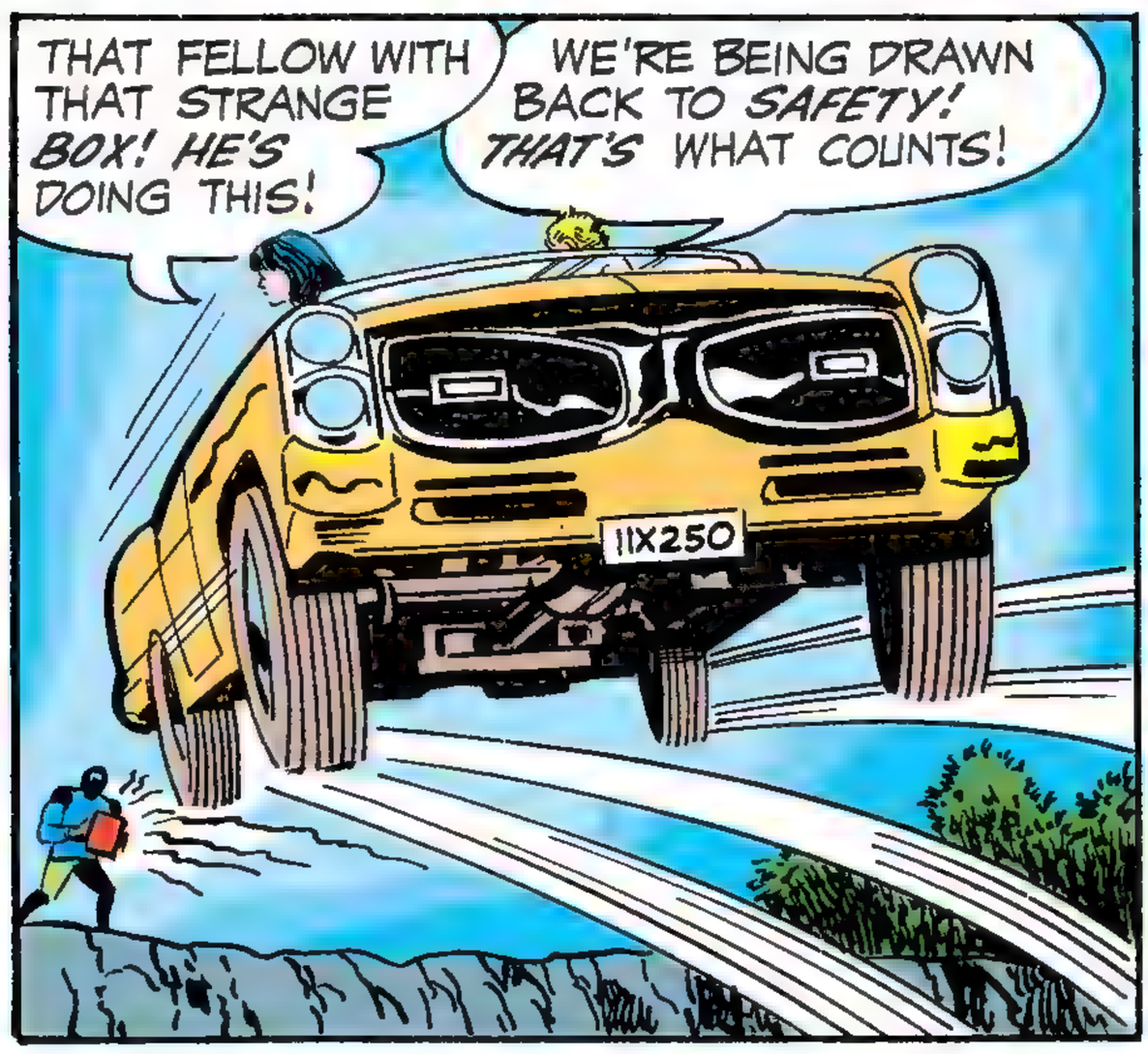

A CAR--COMING UP FAST! EYES FRONT, YOU HAIRY DING-A-LING! WE'RE GOING TO COLLIDE!
COOL IT, I KNOW WHAT BUTTONS TO PUSH!

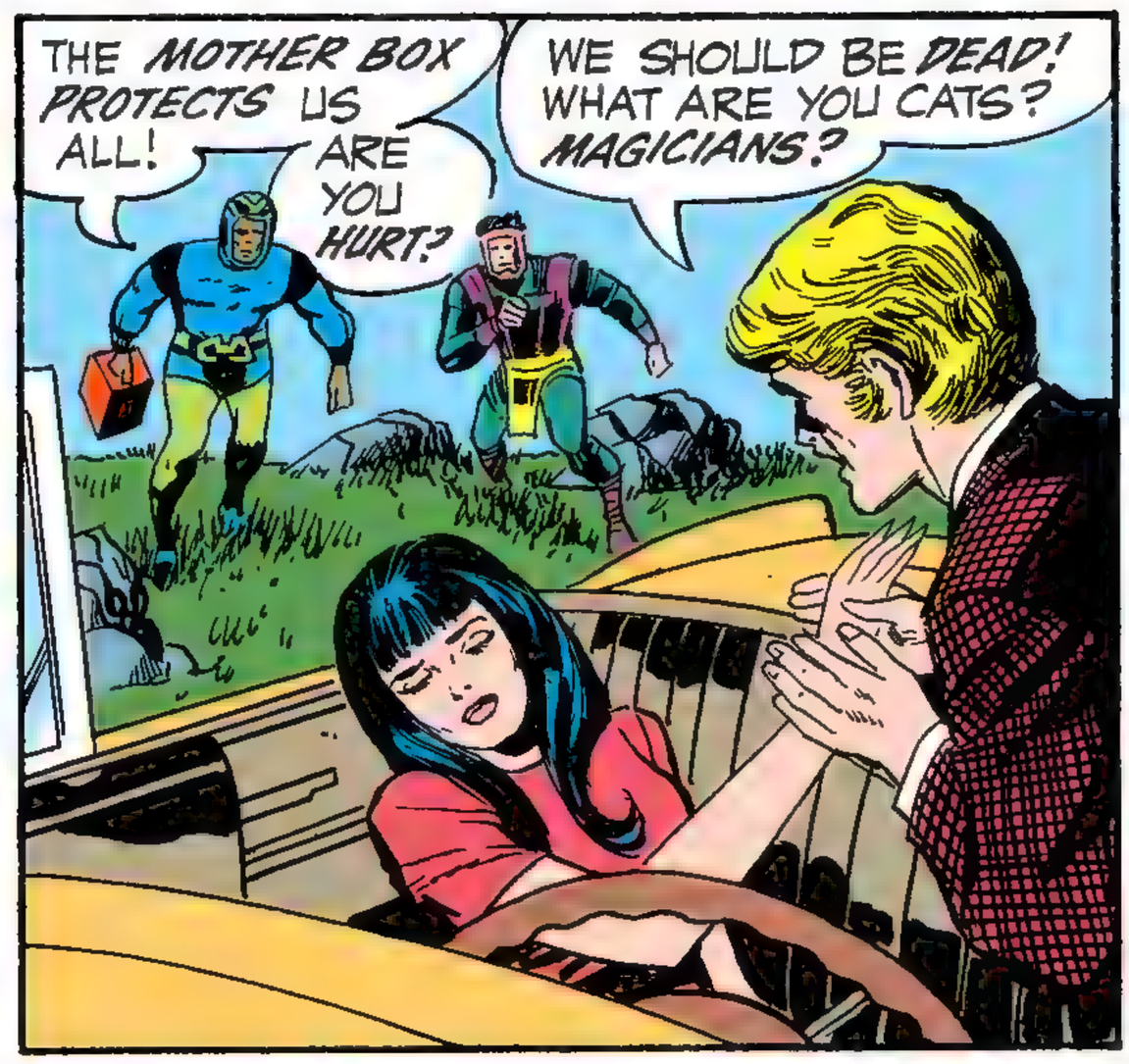

GOOD LORD! THAT THING--IT POPPED OUT OF NOWHERE!
EMERGENCY PHASE OUT INITIATED! GET READY TO FADE, FRIENDS!
IT'S TOO LATE TO CUT AWAY! WE'RE GOING TO HIT!

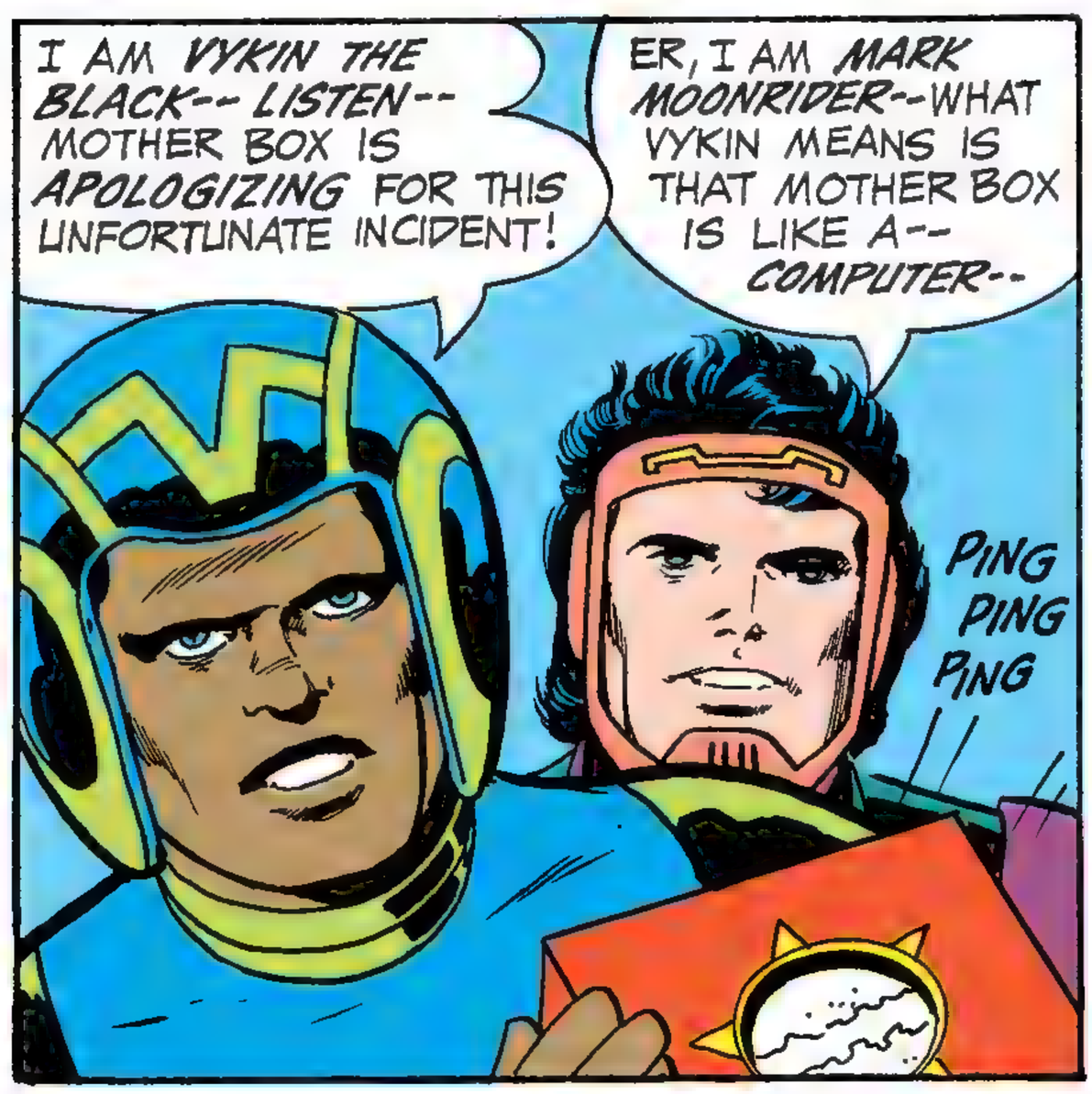

AT THE MOMENT OF COLLISION--
THE SUPER-CYCLE WORKS LIKE A CHARM!
OUR ATOMS HAVE BEEN RE-SHIFTED SO WE CAN PASS THROUGH THE CAR LIKE GHOSTS!
4

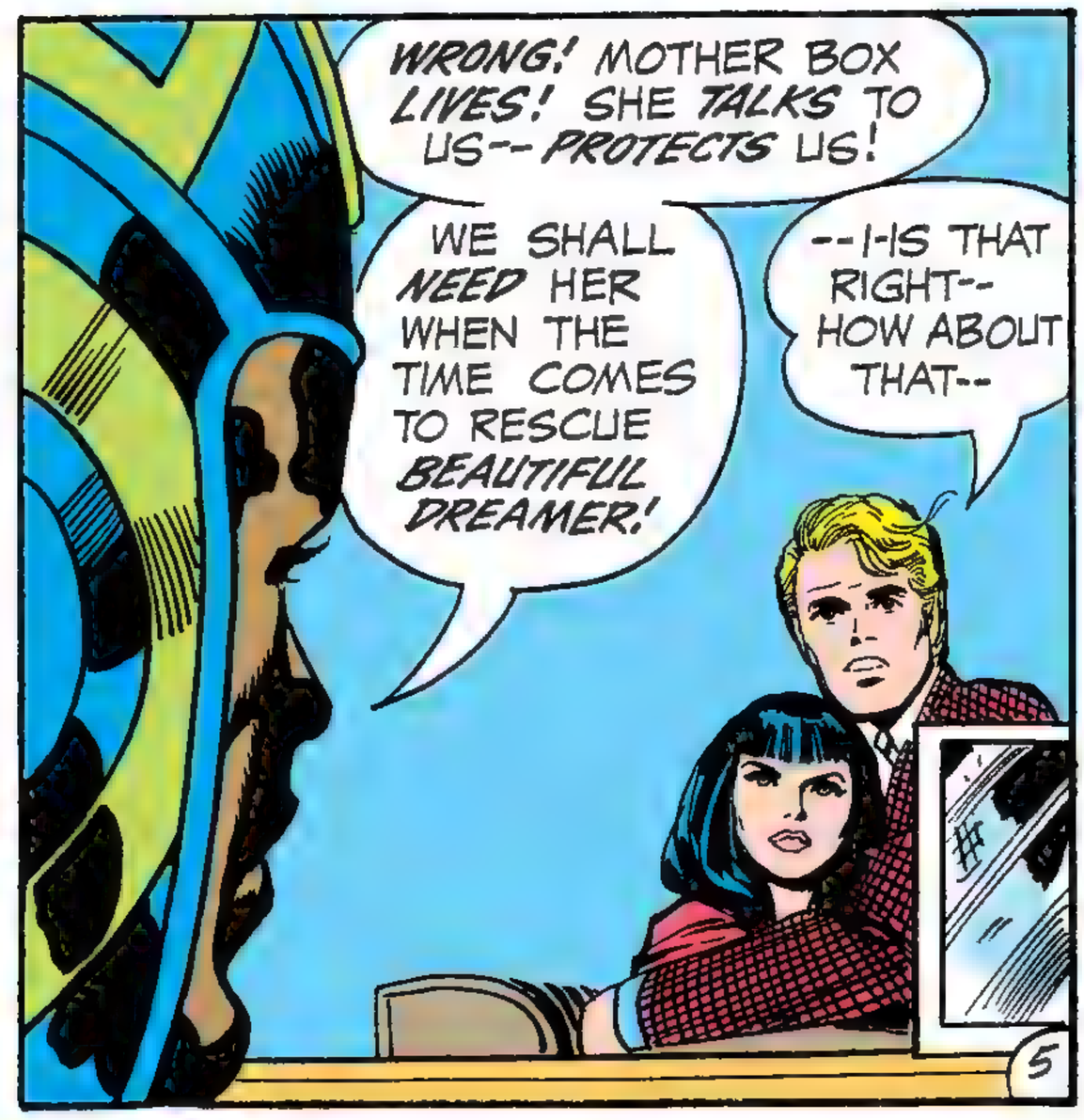

BUT THE YOUNG OCCUPANTS OF THE CAR, TERRIFIED BY THE EXPERIENCE, LOSE CONTROL OF THEIR VEHICLE...
CAN'T HOLD, LAURIE! WE'RE GOING OFF THE CLIFF!

THEN FOLLOWS ANOTHER STARTLING EVENT!
WE'RE NOT FALLING!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, BOBBY! WE'VE HALTED IN MID-AIR!
THE CAR IS BEING HELD BY SOME INVISIBLE FORCE!


THAT FELLOW WITH THAT STRANGE BOX! HE'S DOING THIS!
WE'RE BEING DRAWN BACK TO SAFETY! THAT'S WHAT COUNTS!
11X250


THE MOTHER BOX PROTECTS US ALL!
ARE YOU HURT?
WE SHOULD BE DEAD! WHAT ARE YOU CATS? MAGICIANS?


I AM VYKIN THE BLACK-- LISTEN-- MOTHER BOX IS APOLOGIZING FOR THIS UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT!
ER, I AM MARK MOONRIDER--WHAT VYKIN MEANS IS THAT MOTHER BOX IS LIKE A-- COMPUTER--
PING PING PING


WRONG! MOTHER BOX LIVES! SHE TALKS TO US-- PROTECTS US!
WE SHALL NEED HER WHEN THE TIME COMES TO RESCUE BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
--I-IS THAT RIGHT-- HOW ABOUT THAT--
5

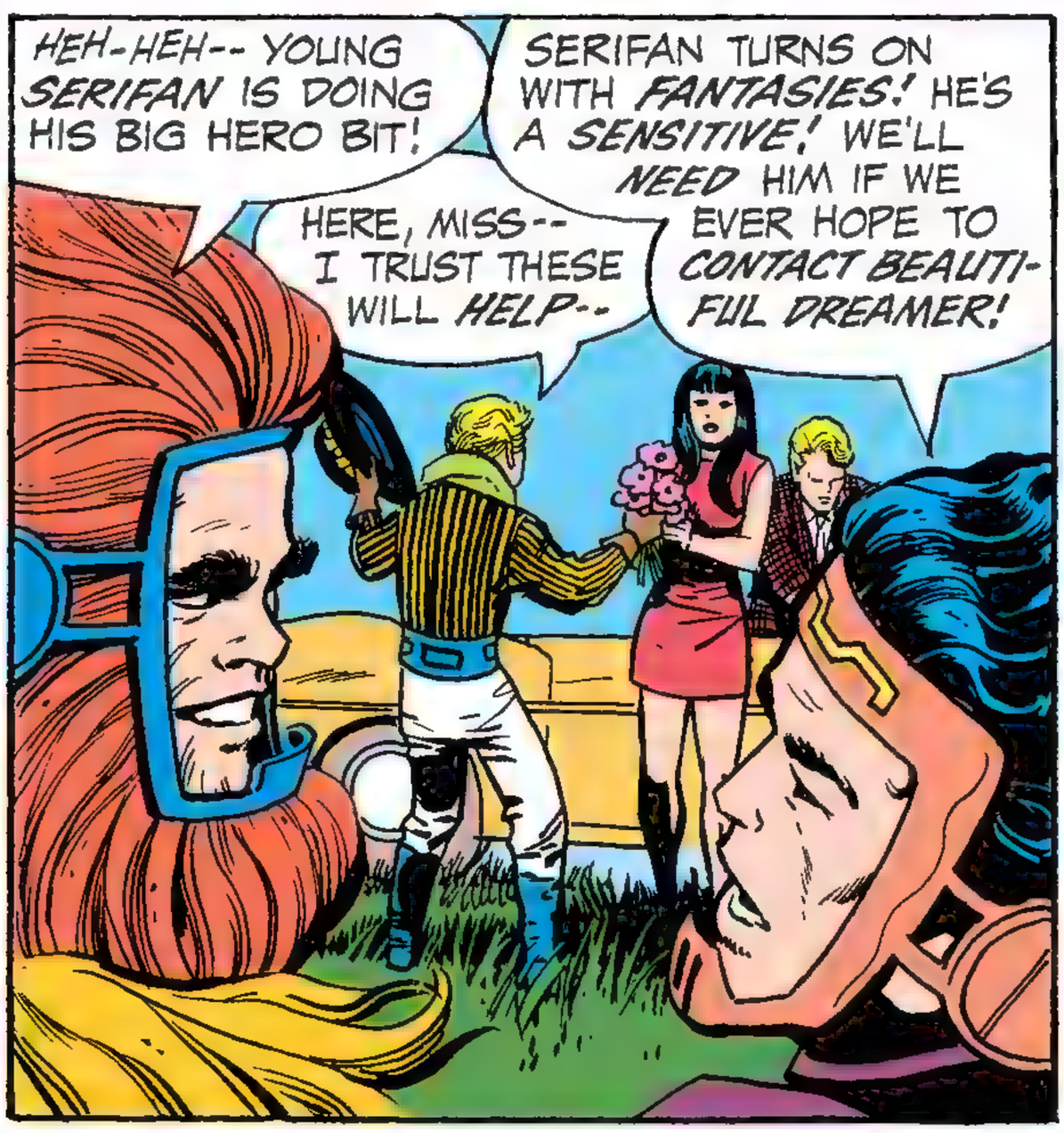
SHE HAS BEEN TAKEN HERE BY EVIL *DARKSEID* HIMSELF! THAT'S WHY WE *RISKED* COMING HERE FROM *SUPER-TOWN!*

--ONLY, HOT PILOT, *BIG BEAR,* FOULED THINGS UP--AS USUAL!

WHERE DID YOU PARK THE *SUPER-CYCLE?*

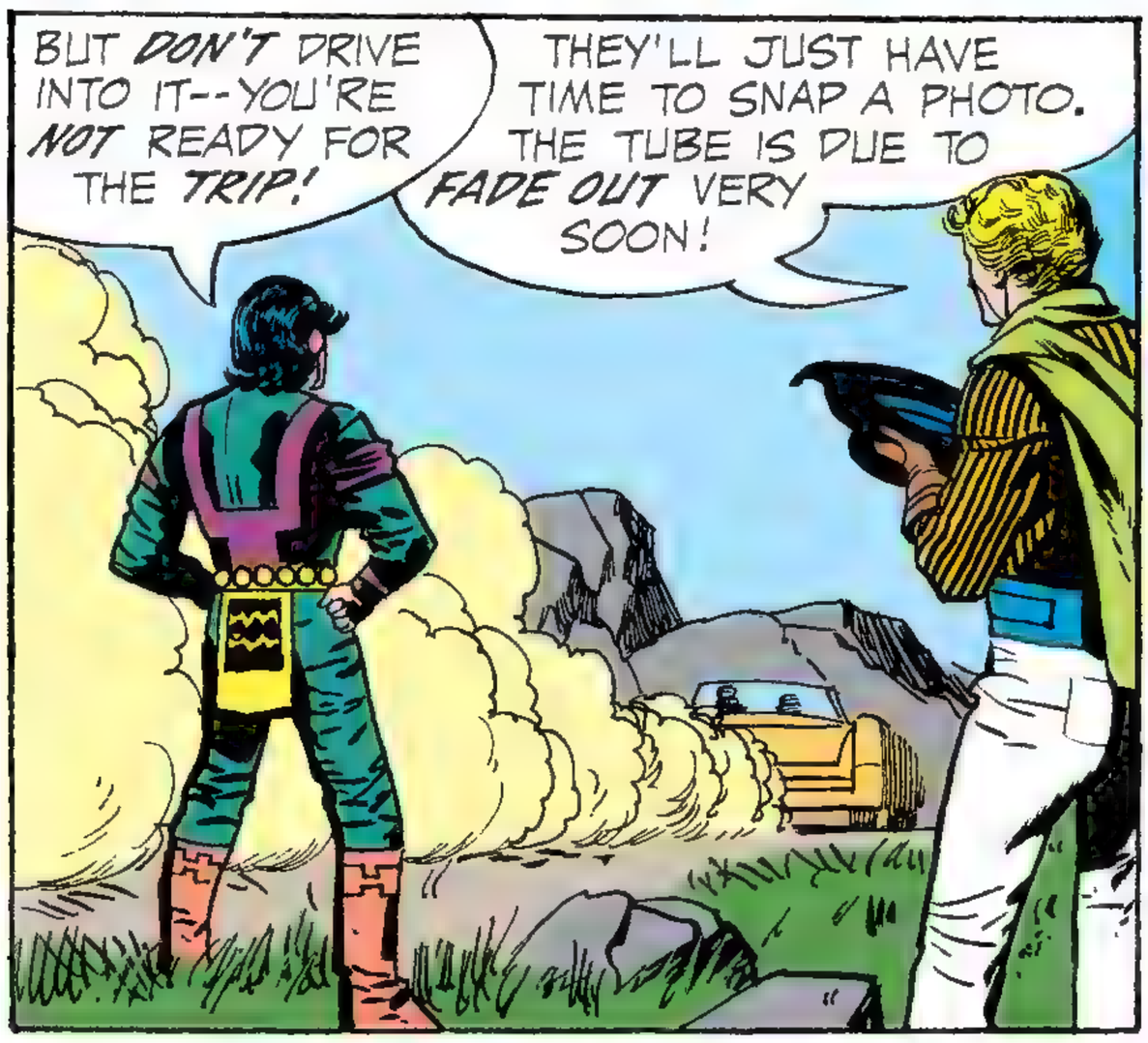
ON A WHITE, FAT *CLOUD!* DOES THAT MAKE YOU *NERVOUS?*

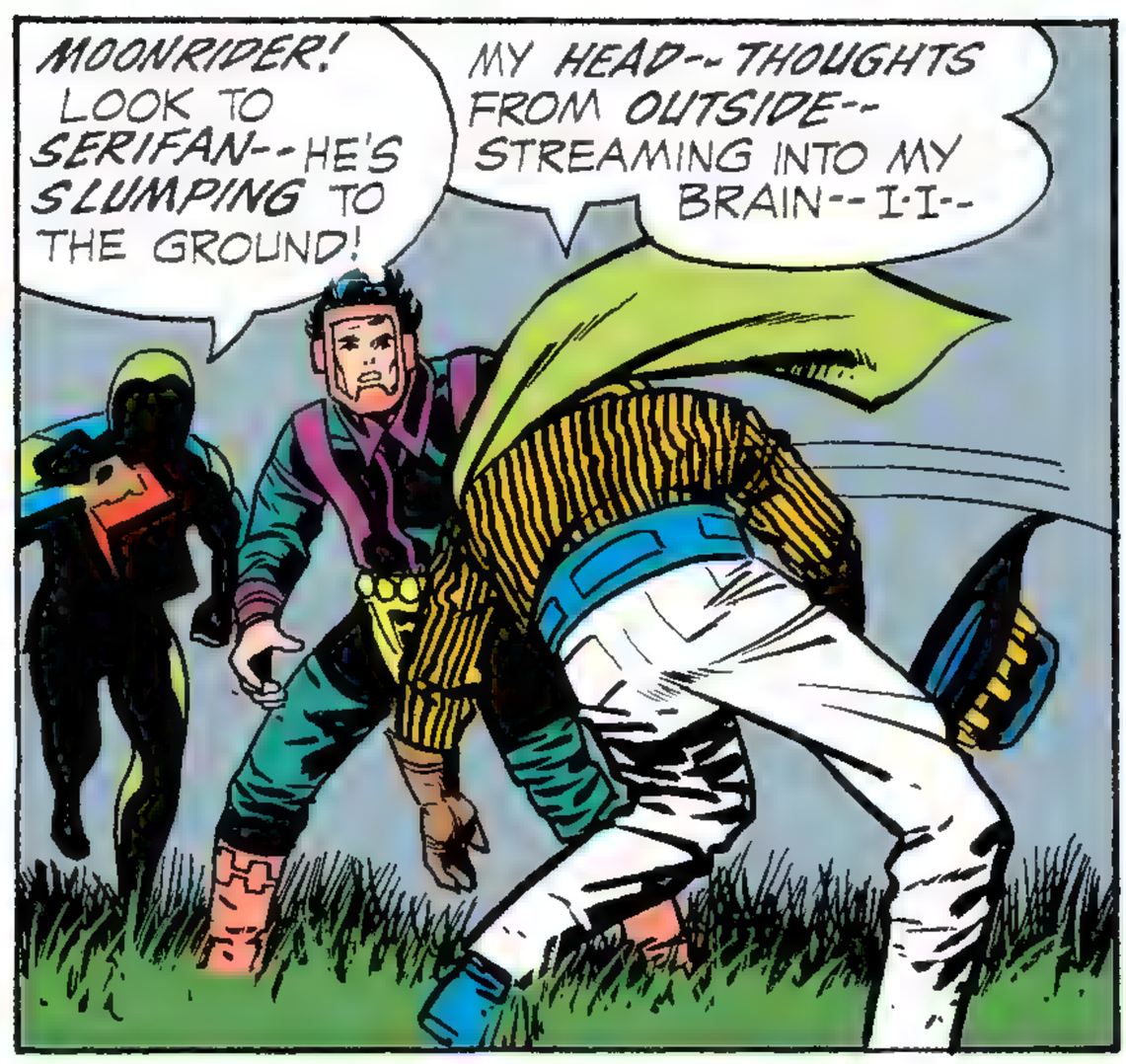
HASN'T *ANYONE* GIVEN THOUGHT TO THE YOUNG LADY? *THESE* SHOULD CALM HER!

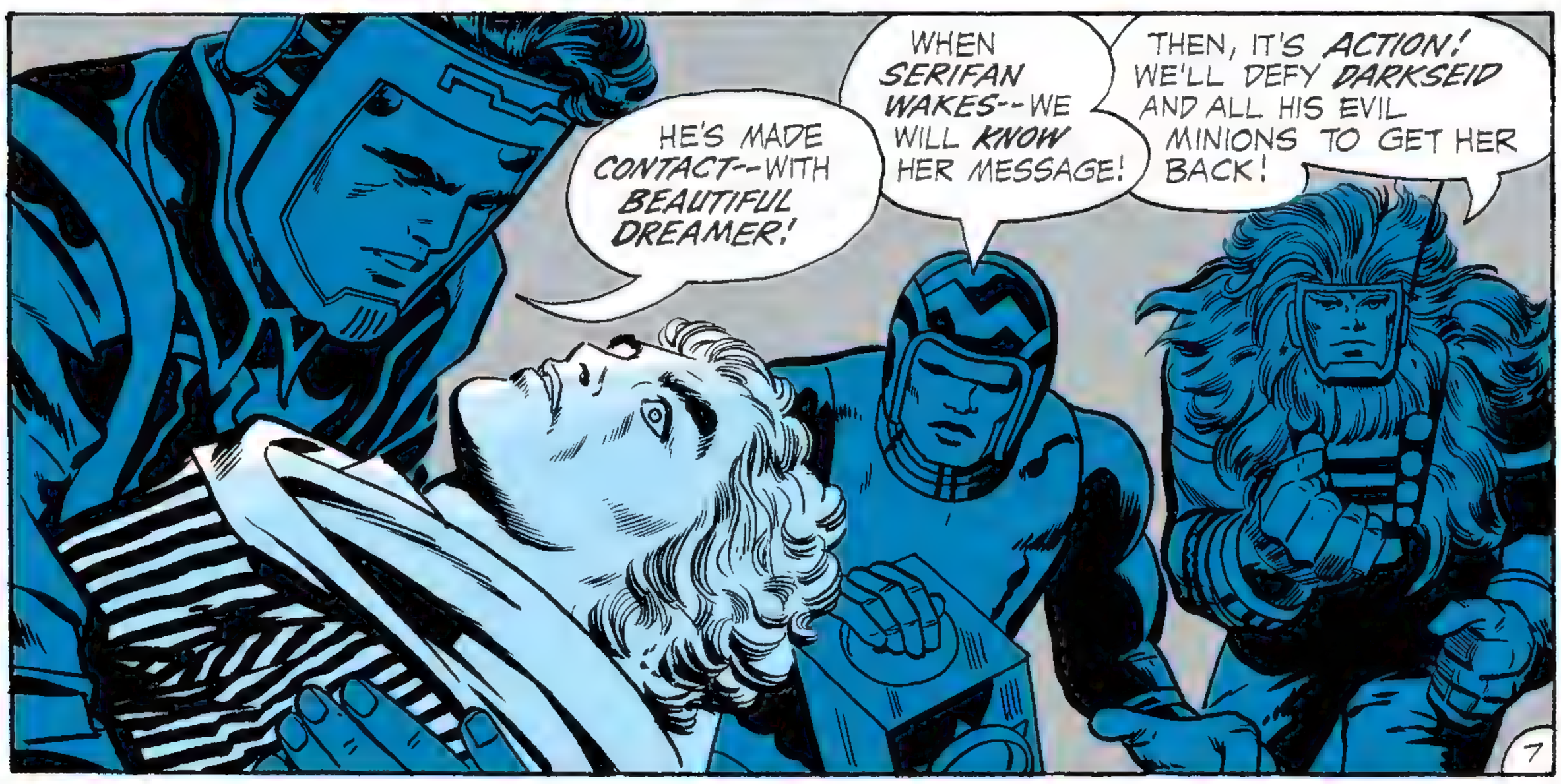


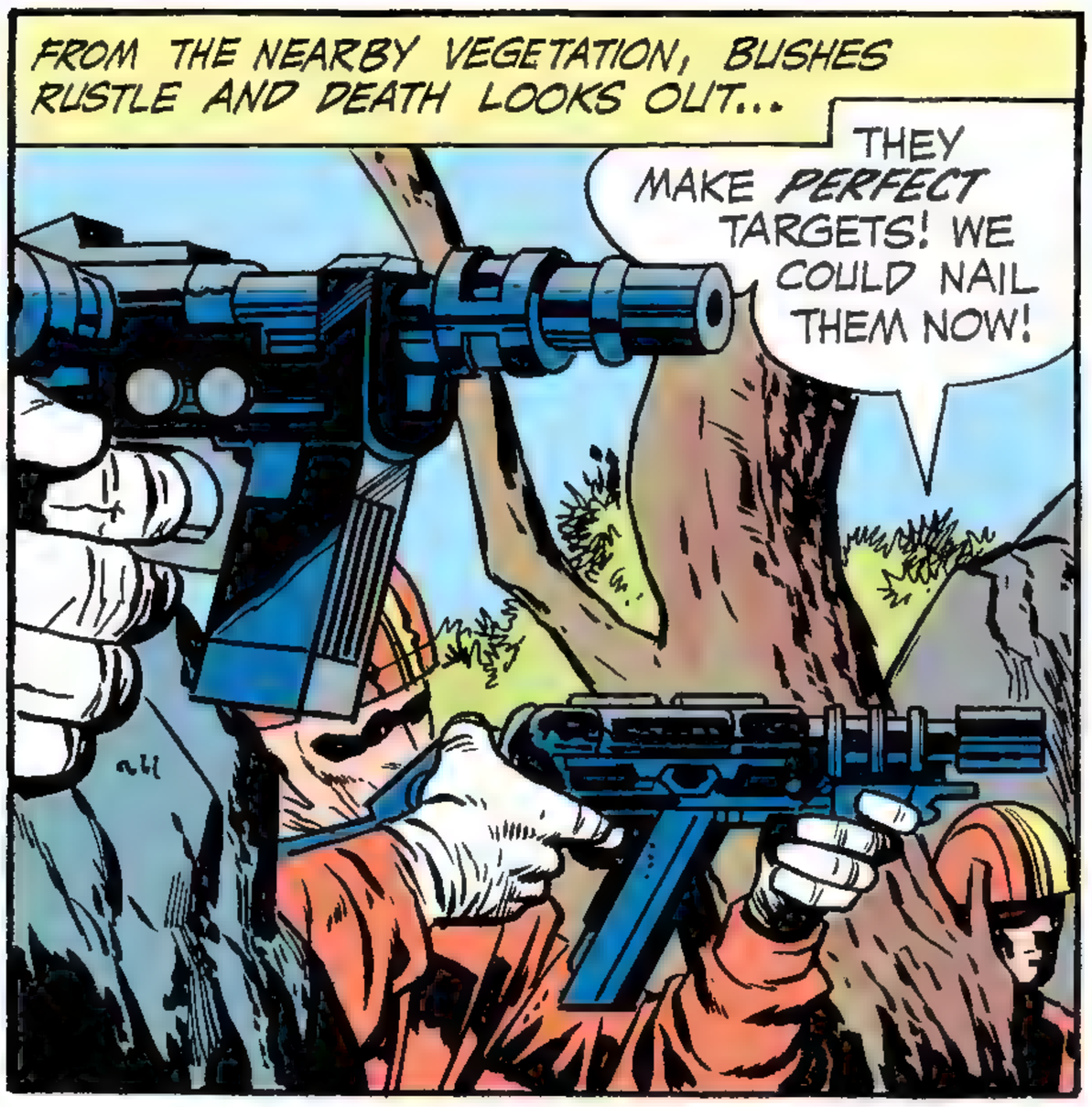
THAT EERIE LIGHT! WHAT IS IT?
IT COMES FROM THE BOOM TUBE!
IT HASN'T DE-MATERIALIZED YET!

GROOVY! IF IT'S AS WEIRD AS YOU CHARACTERS, I'VE GOT A SCOOP FOR A GOOD FRIEND!
THE TUBE IS JUST DOWN THE ROAD--
JIMMY OLSEN WILL EAT THIS UP, BOBBY!

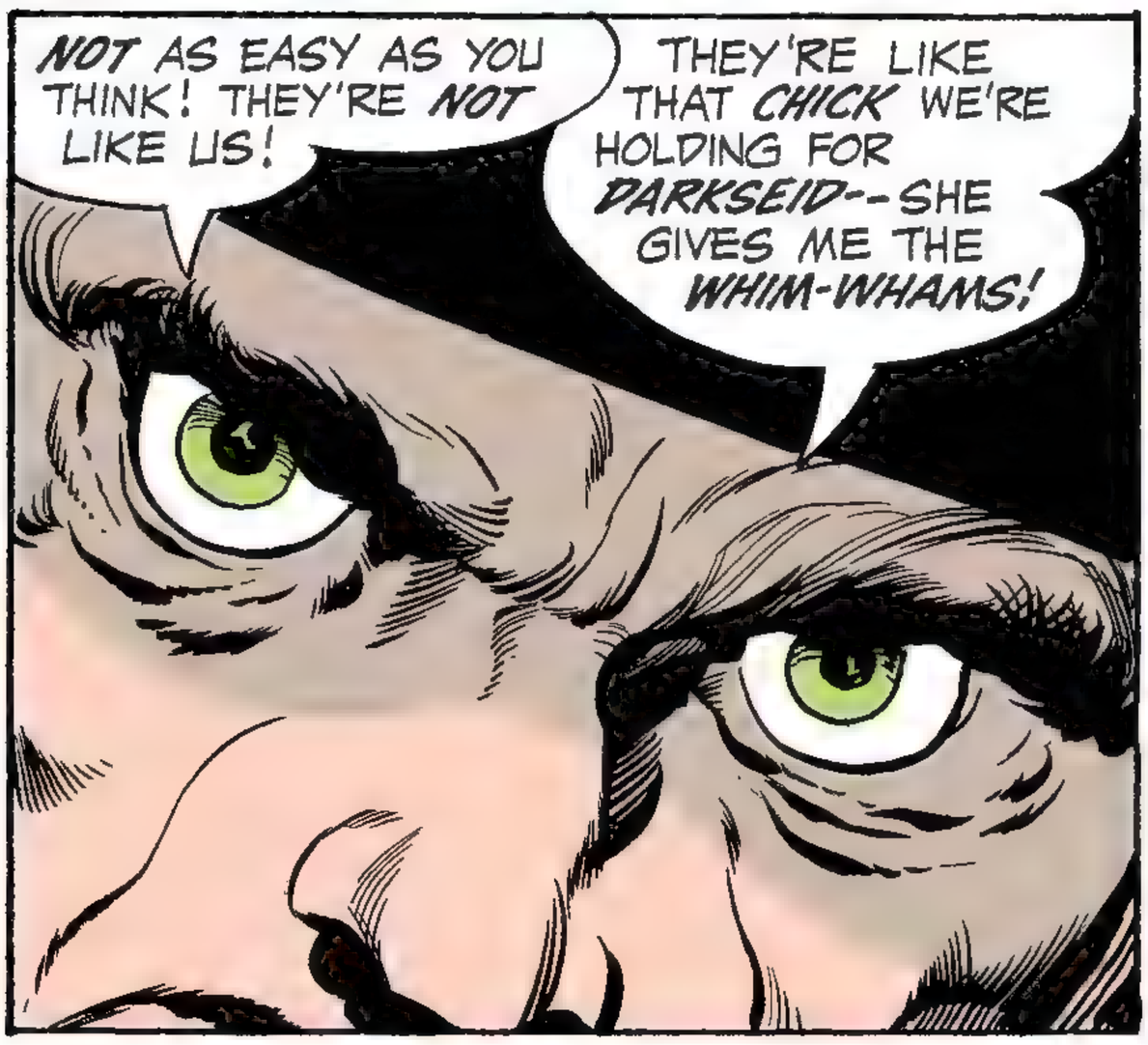

BUT DON'T DRIVE INTO IT--YOU'RE NOT READY FOR THE TRIP!
THEY'LL JUST HAVE TIME TO SNAP A PHOTO. THE TUBE IS DUE TO FADE OUT VERY SOON!


MOONRIDER! LOOK TO SERIFAN--HE'S SLUMPING TO THE GROUND!
MY HEAD--THOUGHTS FROM OUTSIDE--STREAMING INTO MY BRAIN--I-I--

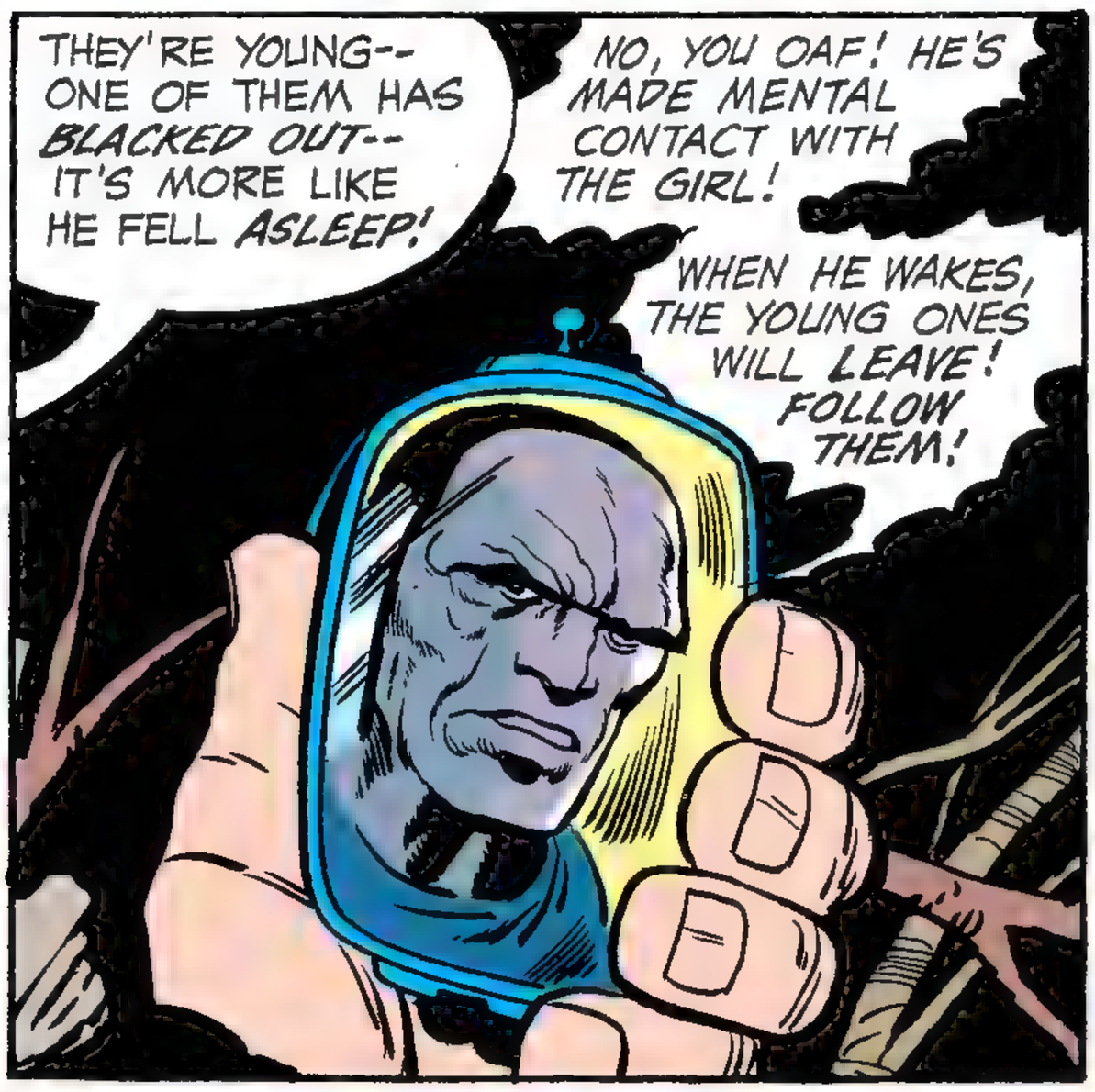

HE'S MADE CONTACT--WITH BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
WHEN SERIFAN WAKES--WE WILL KNOW HER MESSAGE!
THEN, IT'S ACTION! WE'LL DEFY DARKSEID AND ALL HIS EVIL MINIONS TO GET HER BACK!
7


FROM THE NEARBY VEGETATION, BUSHES RUSTLE AND DEATH LOOKS OUT...
THEY MAKE PERFECT TARGETS! WE COULD NAIL THEM NOW!

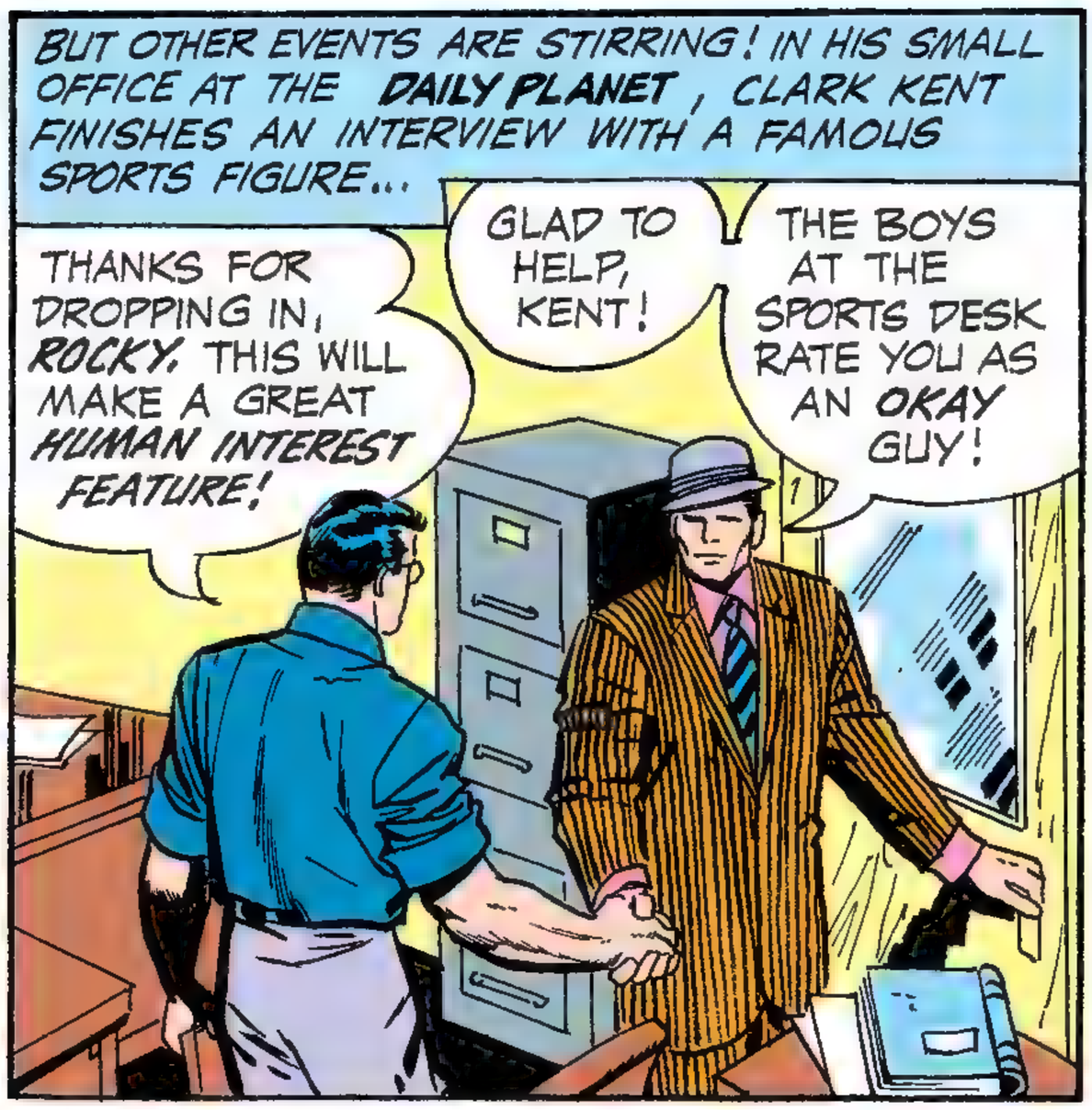
NO, YOU FOOL! NOT YET!
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO REPORT TO DARKSEID WHEN THEY'VE BEEN SPOTTED!
BUT THEY'RE AN EASY KILL!


NOT AS EASY AS YOU THINK! THEY'RE NOT LIKE US!
THEY'RE LIKE THAT CHICK WE'RE HOLDING FOR DARKSEID--SHE GIVES ME THE WHIM-WHAMS!

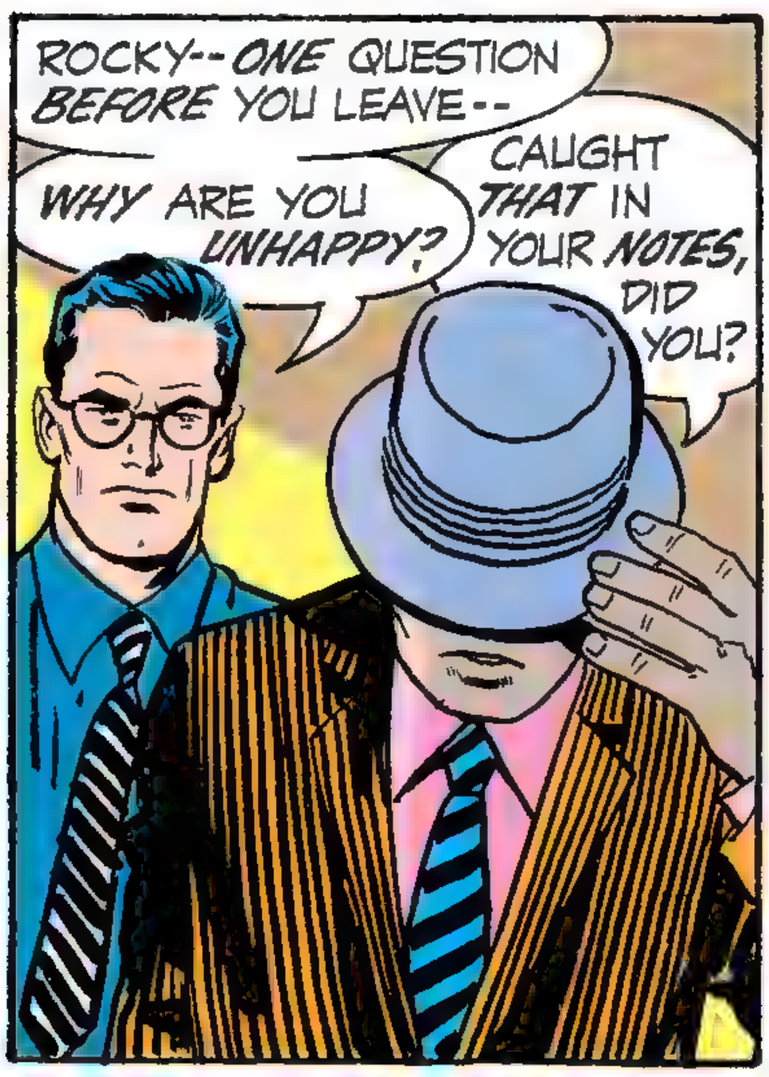
INTER-GANG REPORTING TO DARKSEID! THE BIRDS ARE OUT IN THE OPEN! DO WE FIRE?
ARE THEY OF THE TYPE I DESCRIBED TO YOU?


THEY'RE YOUNG--ONE OF THEM HAS BLACKED OUT--IT'S MORE LIKE HE FELL ASLEEP!
NO, YOU OAF! HE'S MADE MENTAL CONTACT WITH THE GIRL!
WHEN HE WAKES, THE YOUNG ONES WILL LEAVE! FOLLOW THEM!

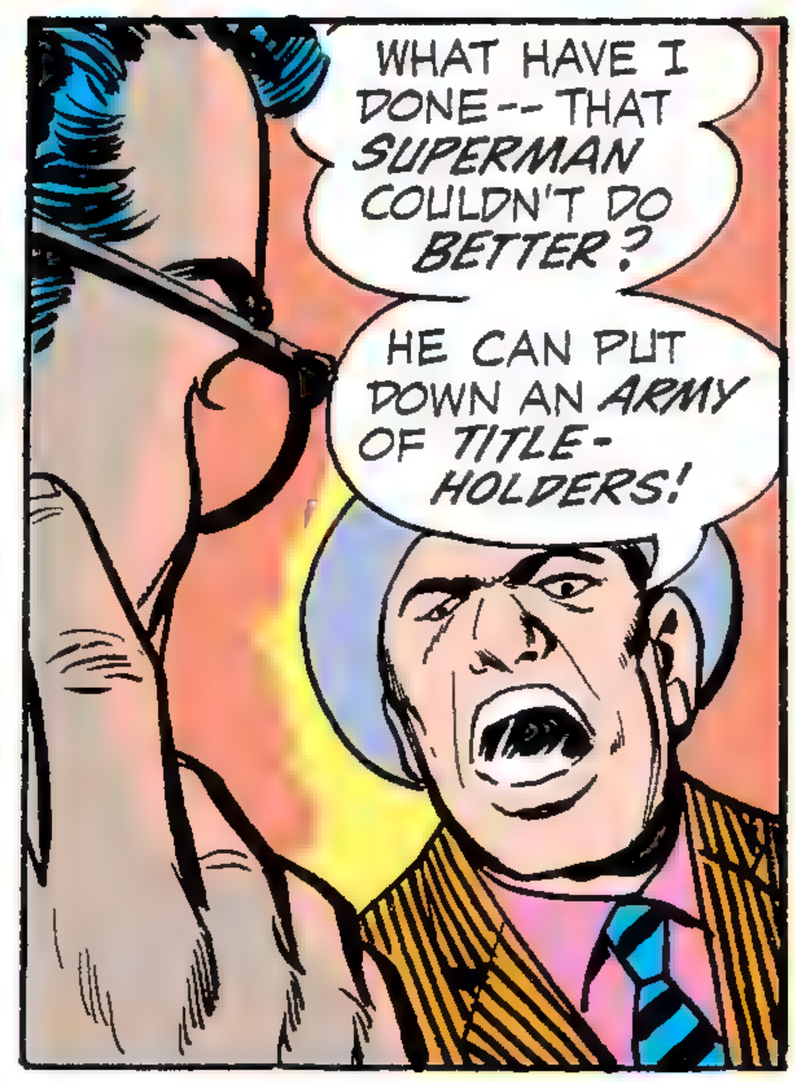
YOU HEARD HIM! HOLD YOUR FIRE AND--WAIT--
TOO BAD... INTER-GANG LIKES TO DELIVER GOOD SERVICE!
8


BUT OTHER EVENTS ARE STIRRING! IN HIS SMALL OFFICE AT THE DAILY PLANET, CLARK KENT FINISHES AN INTERVIEW WITH A FAMOUS SPORTS FIGURE...
THANKS FOR DROPPING IN, ROCKY. THIS WILL MAKE A GREAT HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE!
GLAD TO HELP, KENT!
THE BOYS AT THE SPORTS DESK RATE YOU AS AN OKAY GUY!

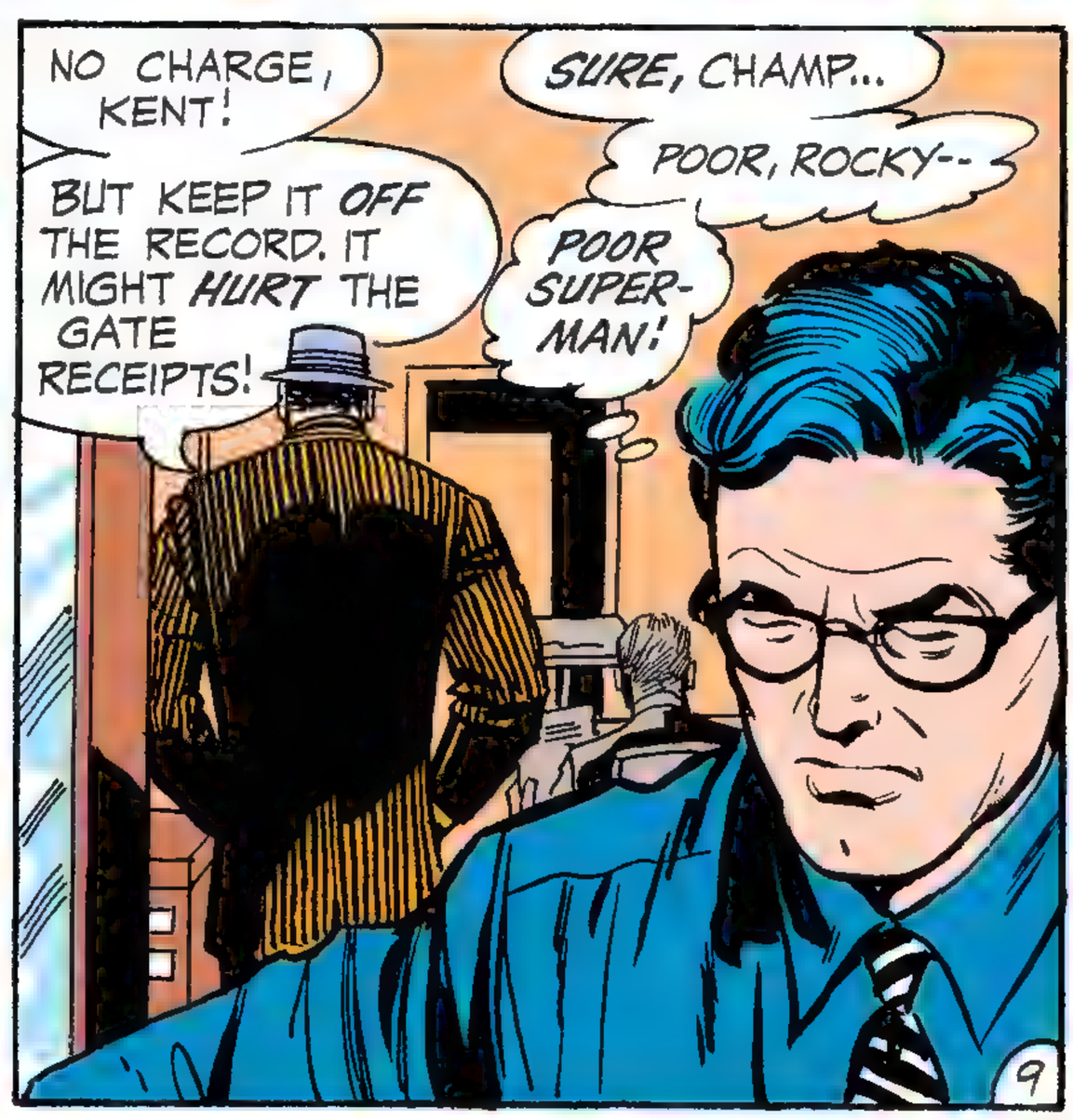
SAY! THAT'S QUITE A GRIP YOU'VE GOT!
EVER BEEN IN THE RING?
ER--NO--I JUST EAT THE RIGHT MORNING CEREALS!


ROCKY--ONE QUESTION BEFORE YOU LEAVE--
WHY ARE YOU UNHAPPY?
CAUGHT THAT IN YOUR NOTES, DID YOU?

BUT YOU'RE THE CHAMP!
THAT'S JUST WHAT'S BUGGING ME!
THE PUBLIC LOVES AND RESPECTS YOU!

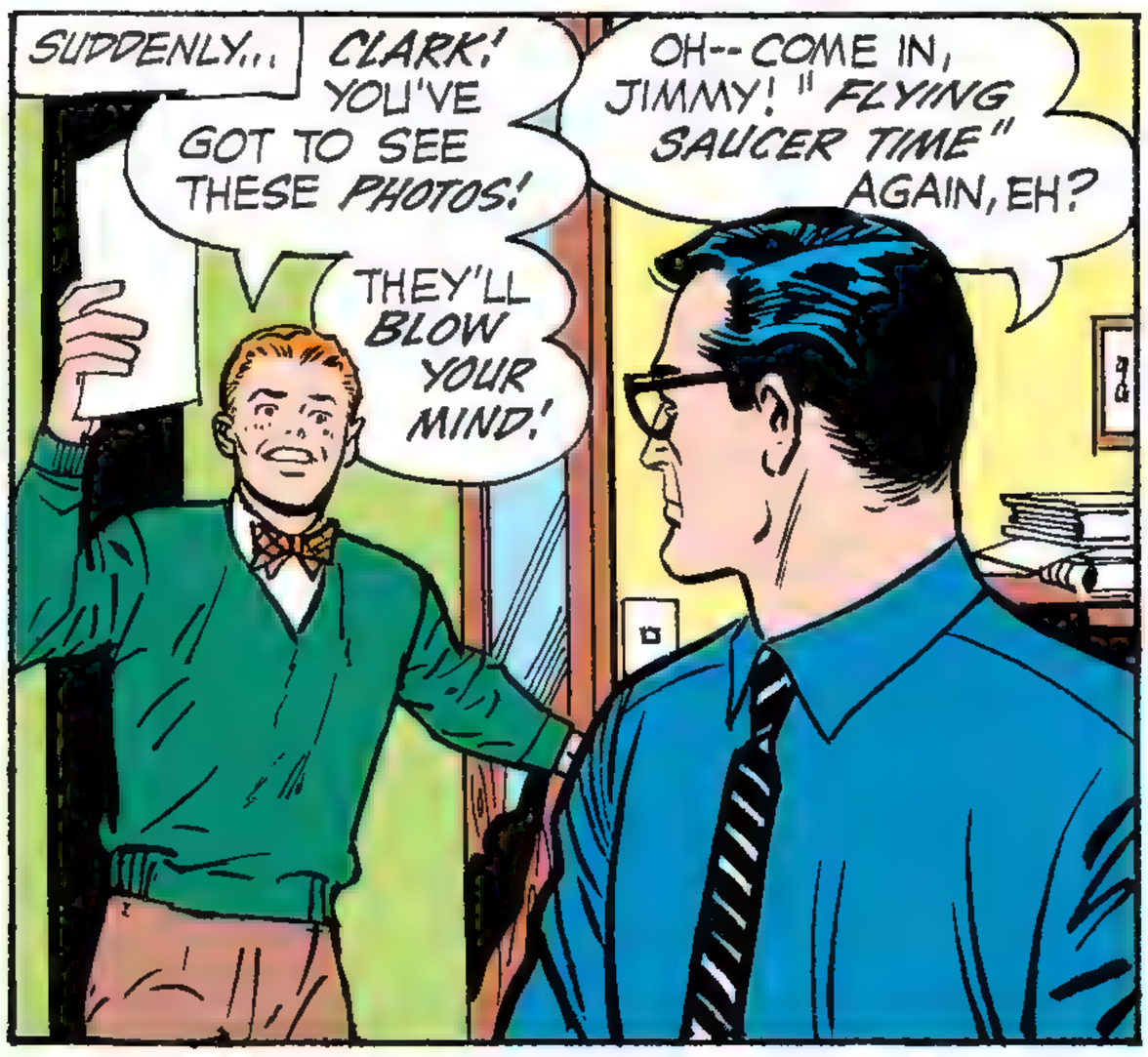

WHAT HAVE I DONE-- THAT SUPERMAN COULDN'T DO BETTER?
HE CAN PUT DOWN AN ARMY OF TITLE-HOLDERS!

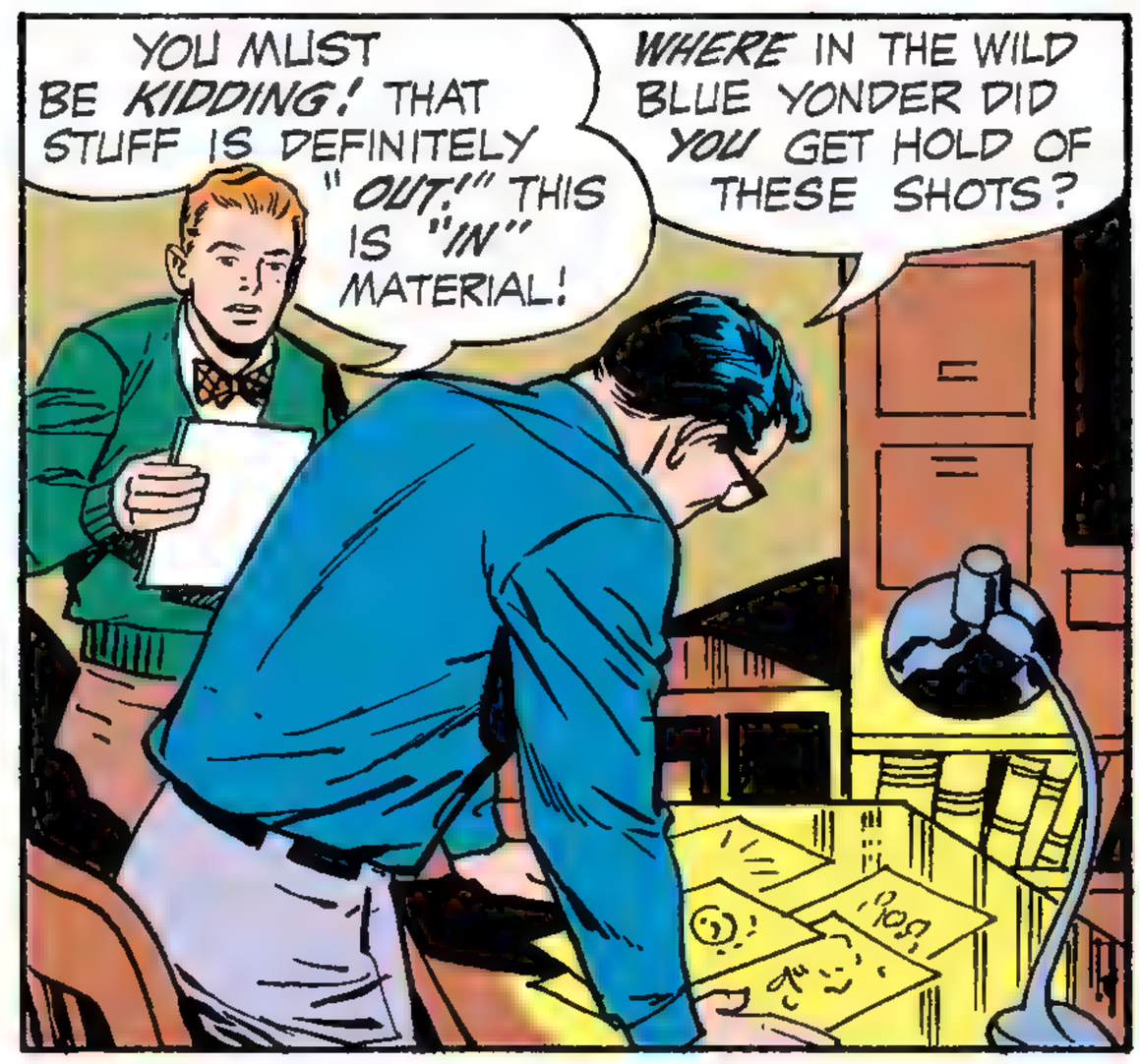
WITH SUPERMAN IN THE PICTURE, THE FIGHT GAME IS A FARCE!
YES--I-I SEE YOUR VIEWPOINT, ROCKY--
IF ONLY I COULD MEET HIM ON HIS OWN TERMS--!

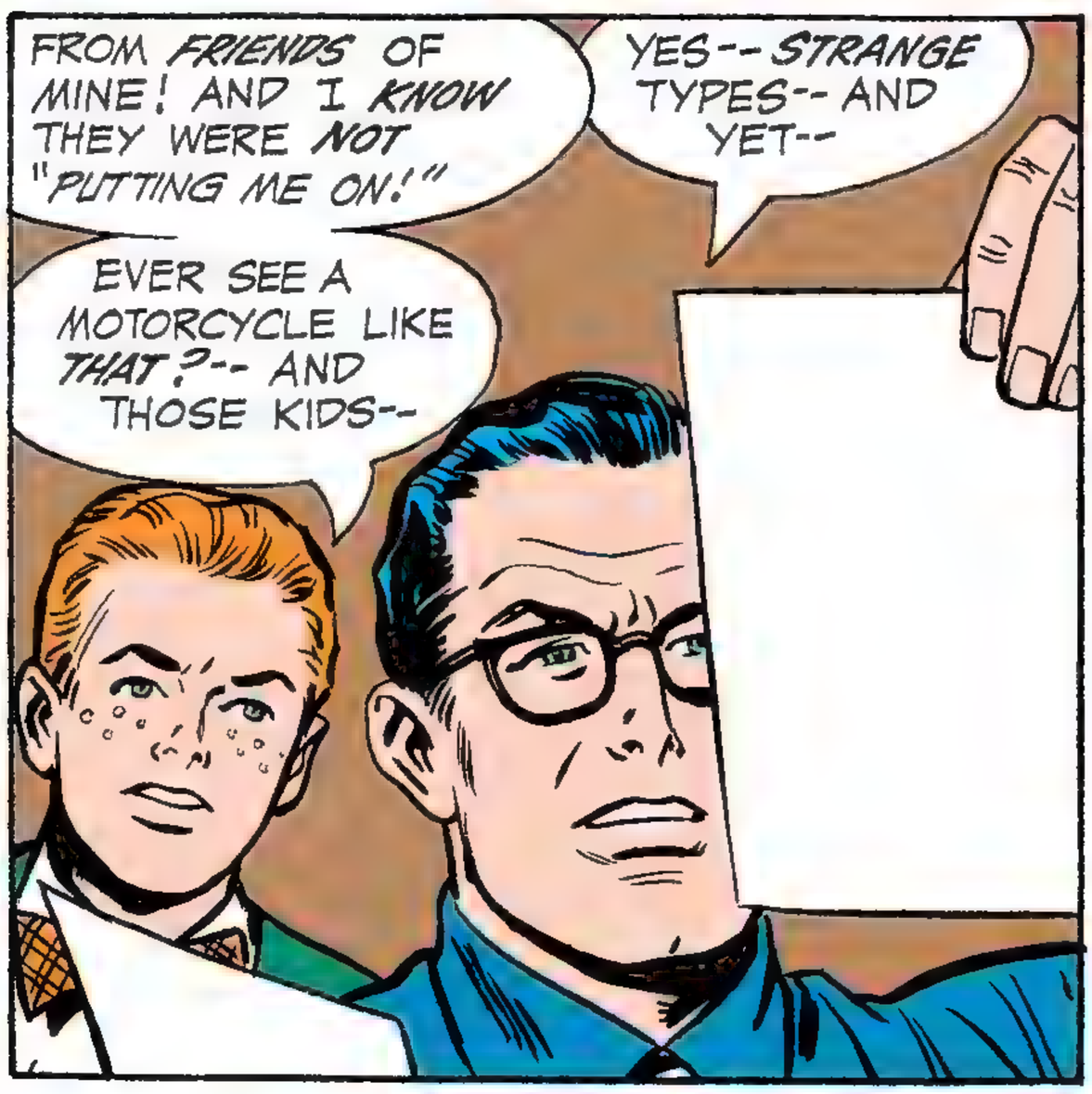

NO CHARGE, KENT!
SURE, CHAMP...
POOR, ROCKY--
BUT KEEP IT OFF THE RECORD. IT MIGHT HURT THE GATE RECEIPTS!
POOR SUPER-MAN!
9

DESPITE HIS POWERS, HE IS A MINORITY OF ONE IN A TEEMING WORLD OF BILLIONS!
WHAT DOES SUPERMAN MEAN TO YOU, DOWN THERE?
A STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND...

DO THEY SECRETLY RESENT HIM? FEAR HIM--? HATE HIM?
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS-- I FEEL THAT I'M ALONE-- ALONE!

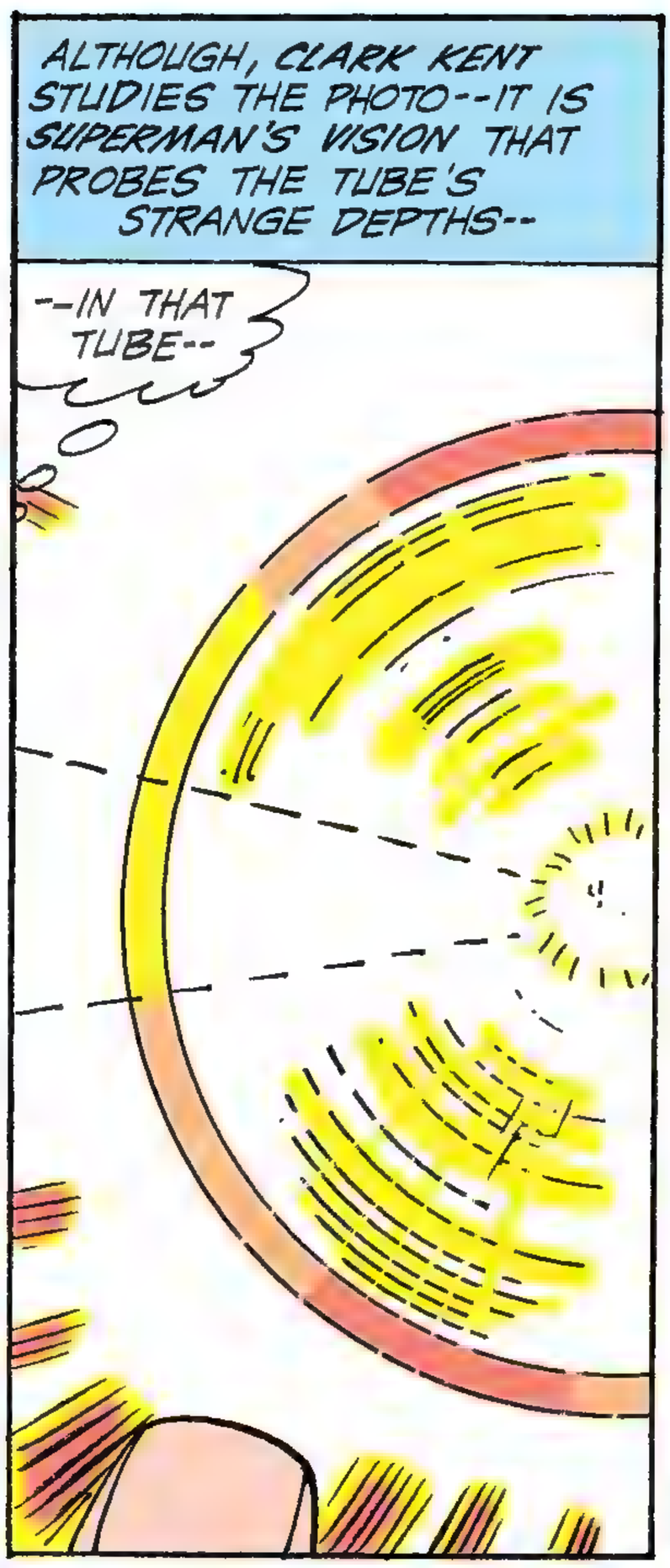

SUDDENLY...
CLARK! YOU'VE GOT TO SEE THESE PHOTOS!
THEY'LL BLOW YOUR MIND!
OH--COME IN, JIMMY! "FLYING SAUCER TIME" AGAIN, EH?

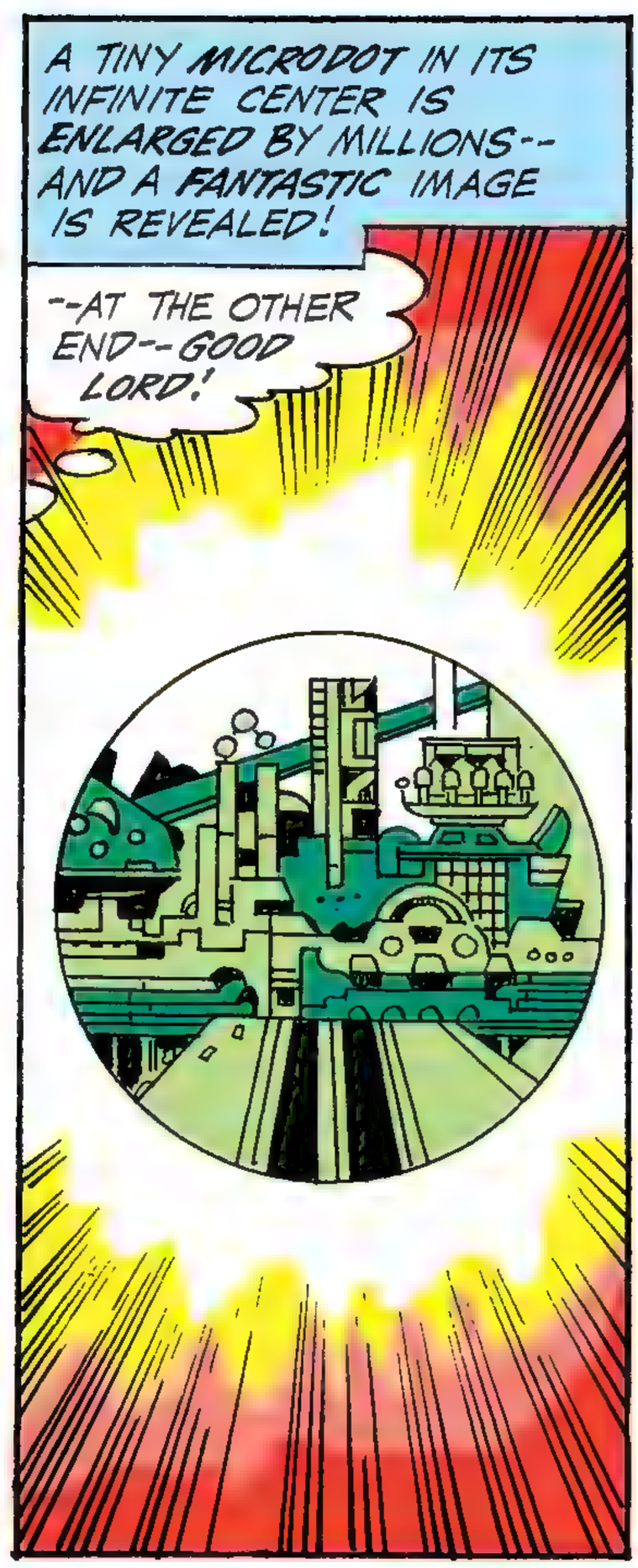

YOU MUST BE KIDDING! THAT STUFF IS DEFINITELY "OUT!" THIS IS "IN" MATERIAL!
WHERE IN THE WILD BLUE YONDER DID YOU GET HOLD OF THESE SHOTS?

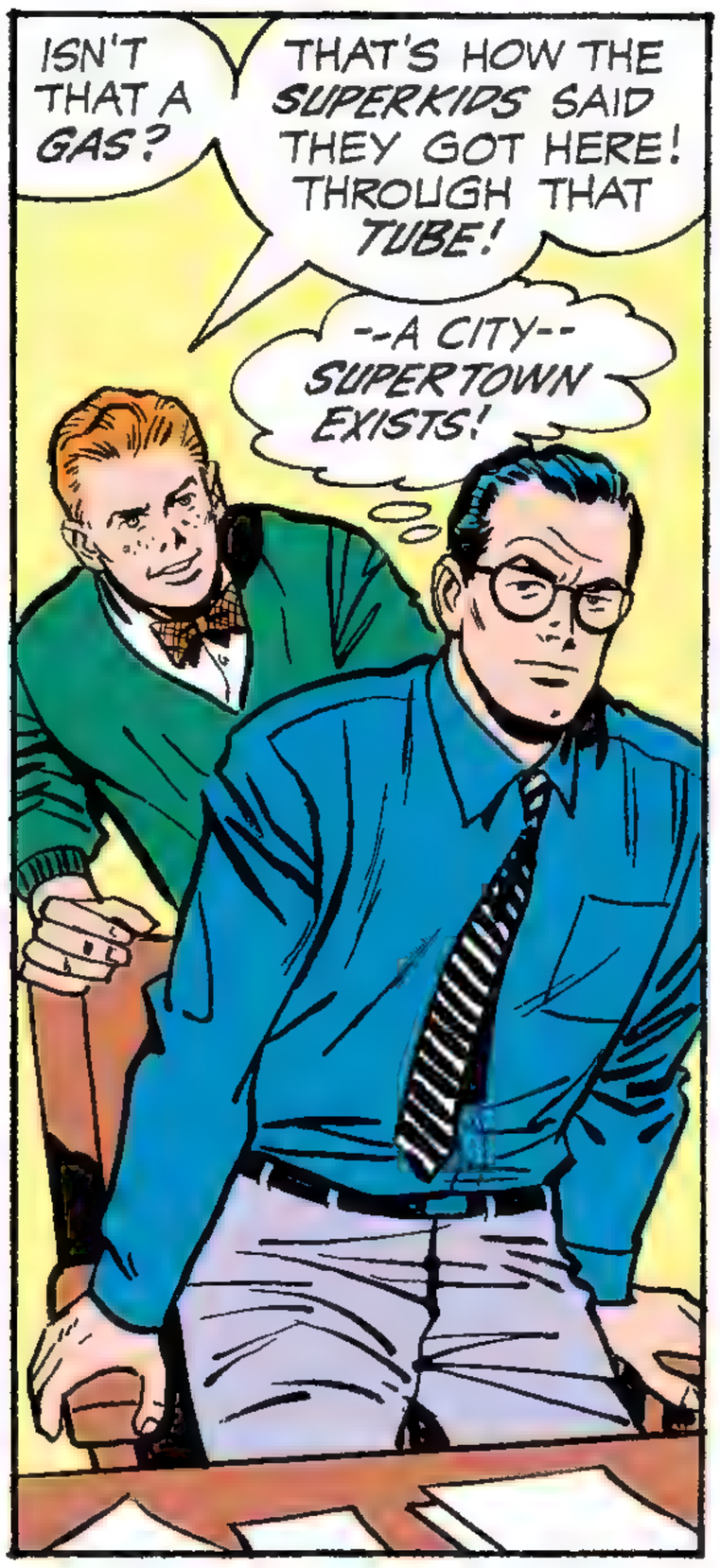

FROM FRIENDS OF MINE! AND I KNOW THEY WERE NOT "PUTTING ME ON!"
YES--STRANGE TYPES--AND YET--
EVER SEE A MOTORCYCLE LIKE THAT?-- AND THOSE KIDS--

SUPER-KIDS FROM A PLACE CALLED SUPER TOWN! THEY CALL THEMSELVES THE FOREVER PEOPLE! AND--
HOLD IT, JIMMY!-- JUST ONE SECOND!
10

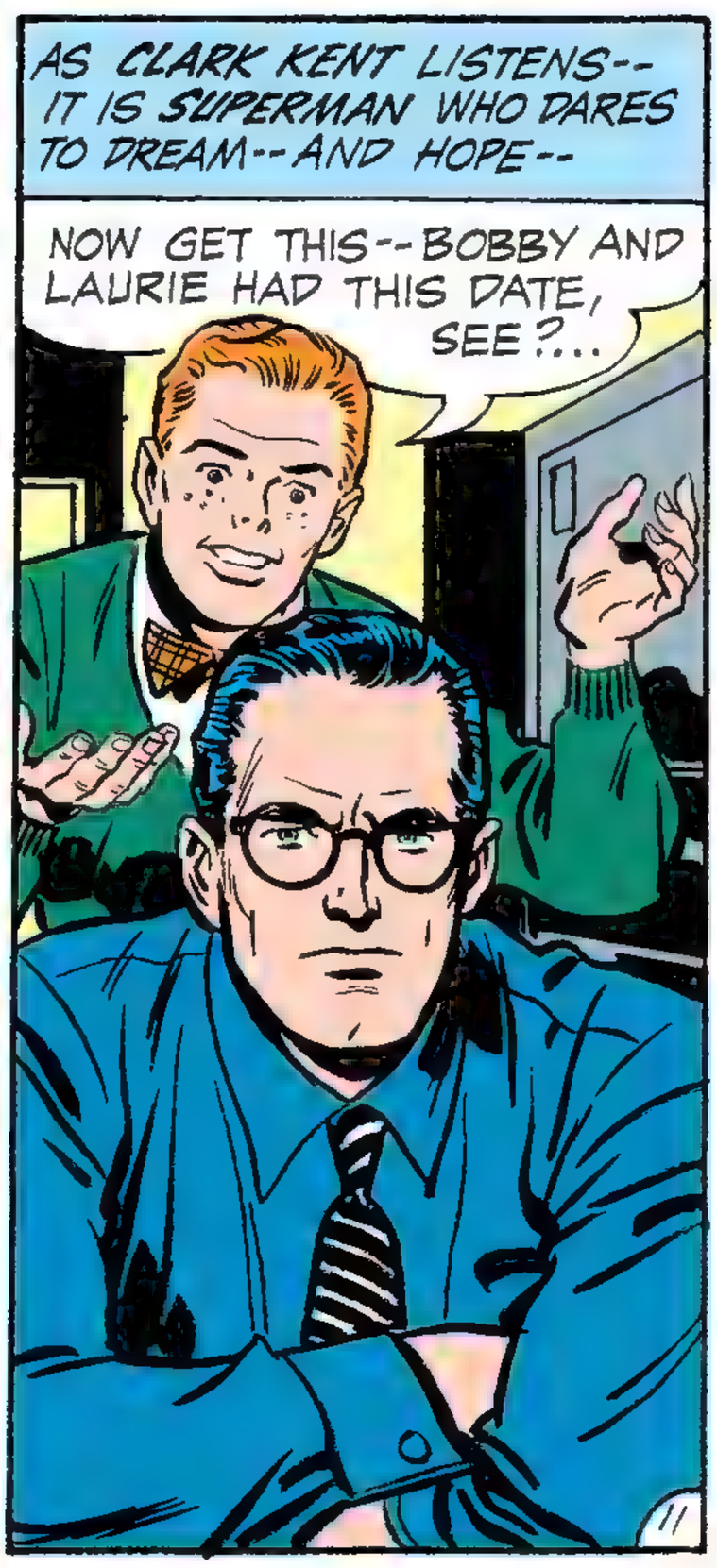
SO YOU'RE GRABBED BY THE BOOM TUBE, HUH? ISN'T IT THE WILDEST?
MY FRIEND, BOBBY, SHOT THIS LAST FRAME AS IT WAS FADING OUT!
THERE IS SOMETHING--

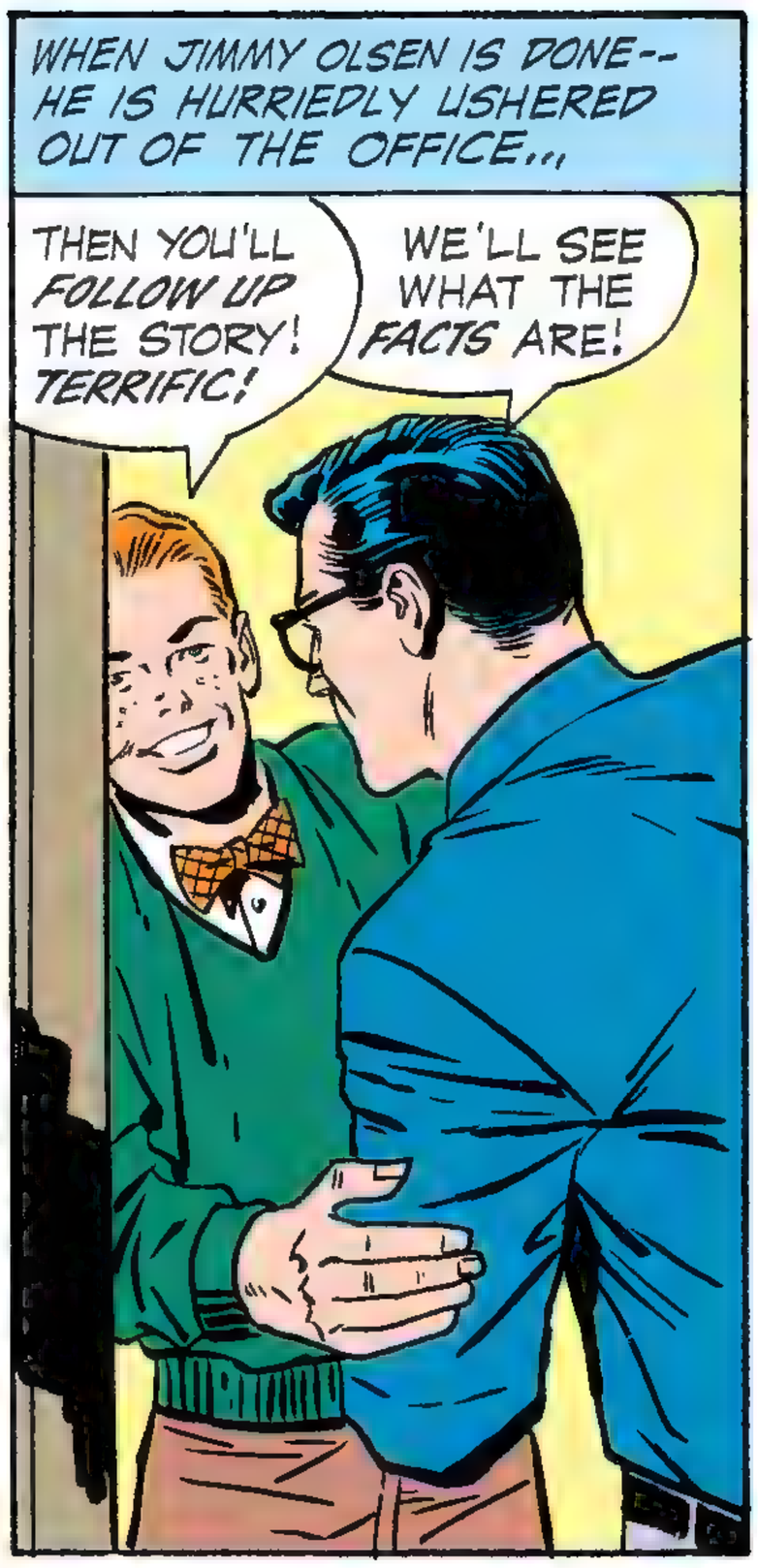

ALTHOUGH, CLARK KENT STUDIES THE PHOTO--IT IS SUPERMAN'S VISION THAT PROBES THE TUBE'S STRANGE DEPTHS--
--IN THAT TUBE--

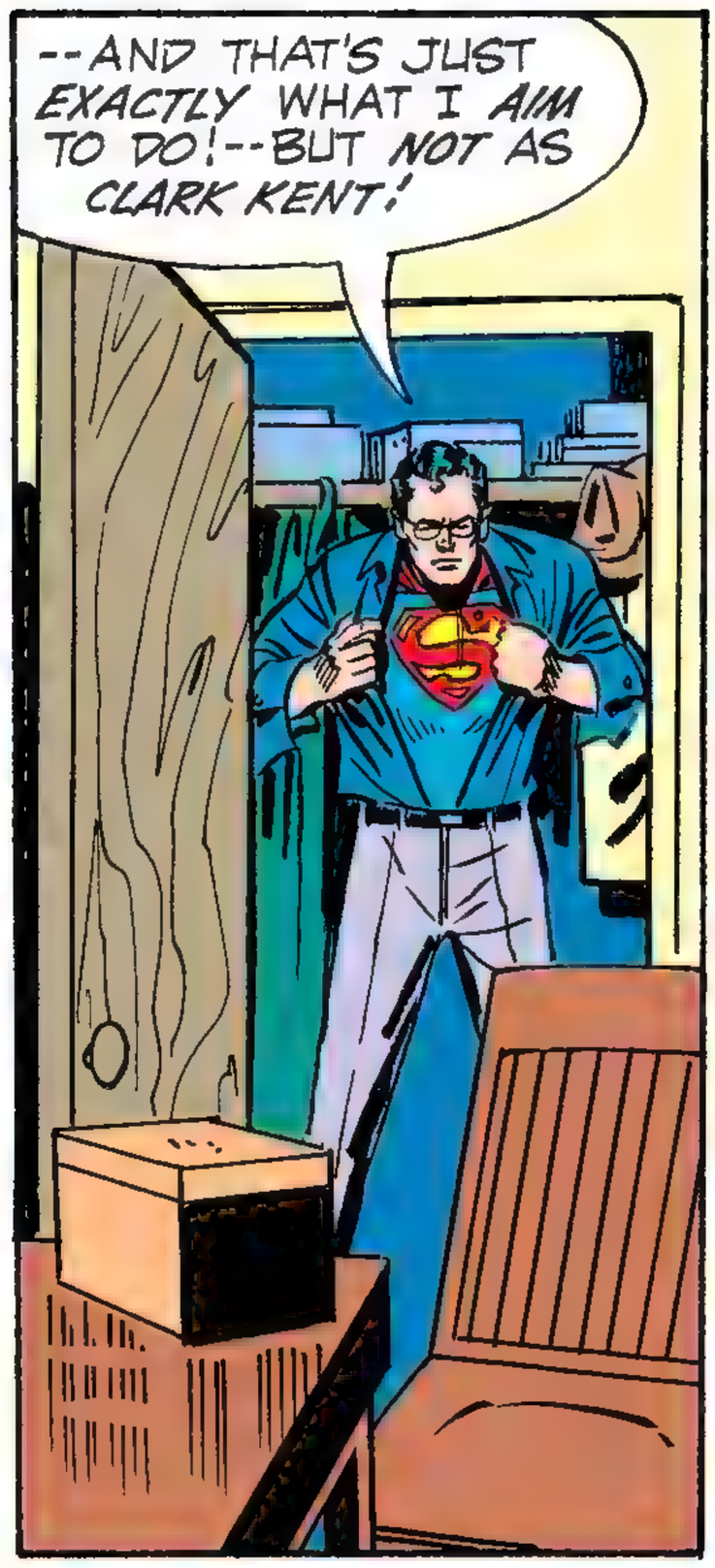

A TINY MICRODOT IN ITS INFINITE CENTER IS ENLARGED BY MILLIONS--AND A FANTASTIC IMAGE IS REVEALED!
--AT THE OTHER END--GOOD LORD!


ISN'T THAT A GAS?
THAT'S HOW THE SUPERKIDS SAID THEY GOT HERE! THROUGH THAT TUBE!
--A CITY--SUPERTOWN EXISTS!

JIMMY--NOW GIVE ME THIS ENTIRE STORY--STEP BY STEP--
--FROM THE BEGINNING!
YOU BET!
EVEN AS A LIE--THIS YARN WOULD BE A WHOPPER!


AS CLARK KENT LISTENS--IT IS SUPERMAN WHO DARES TO DREAM--AND HOPE--
NOW GET THIS--BOBBY AND LAURIE HAD THIS DATE, SEE?...



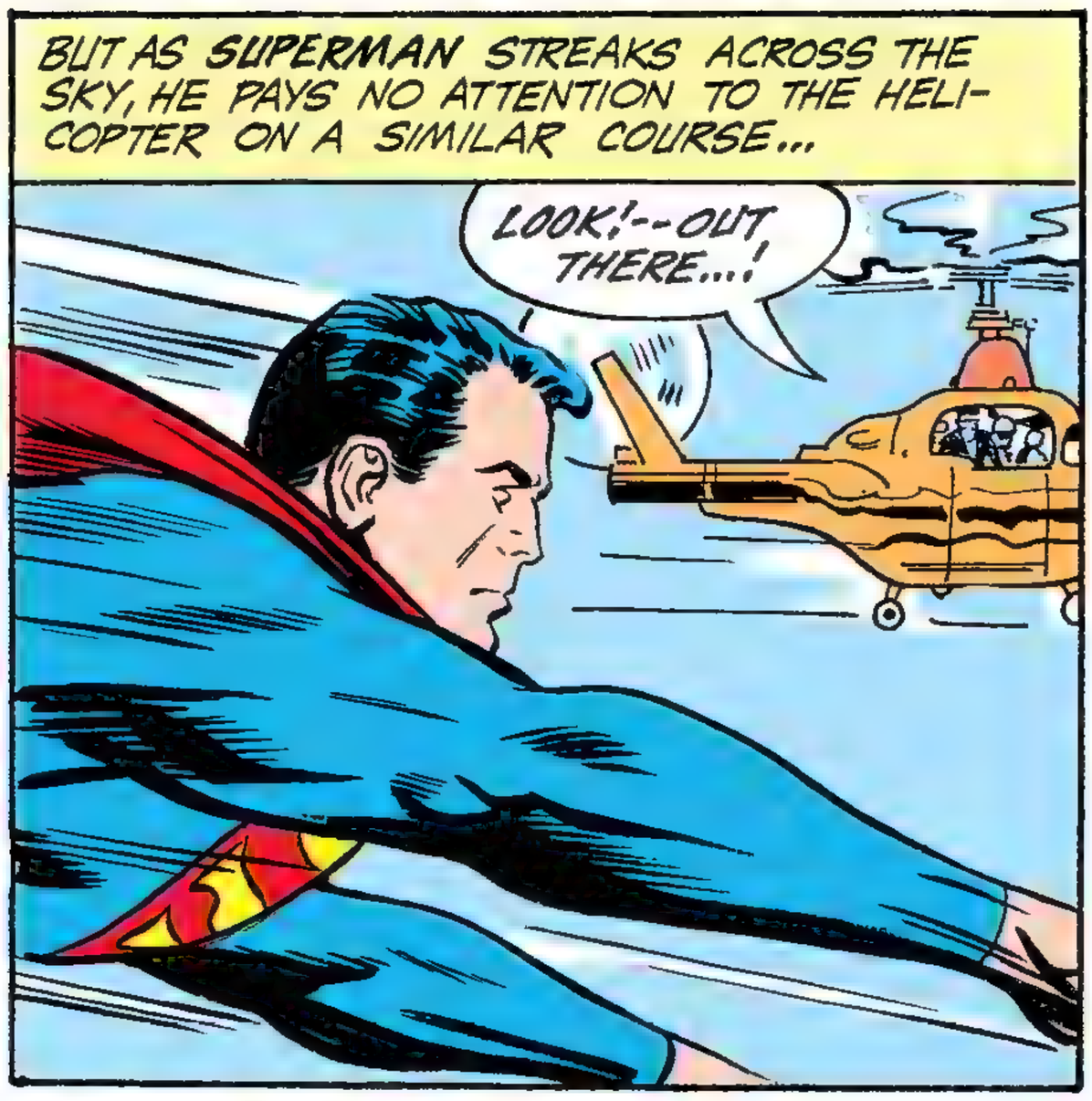


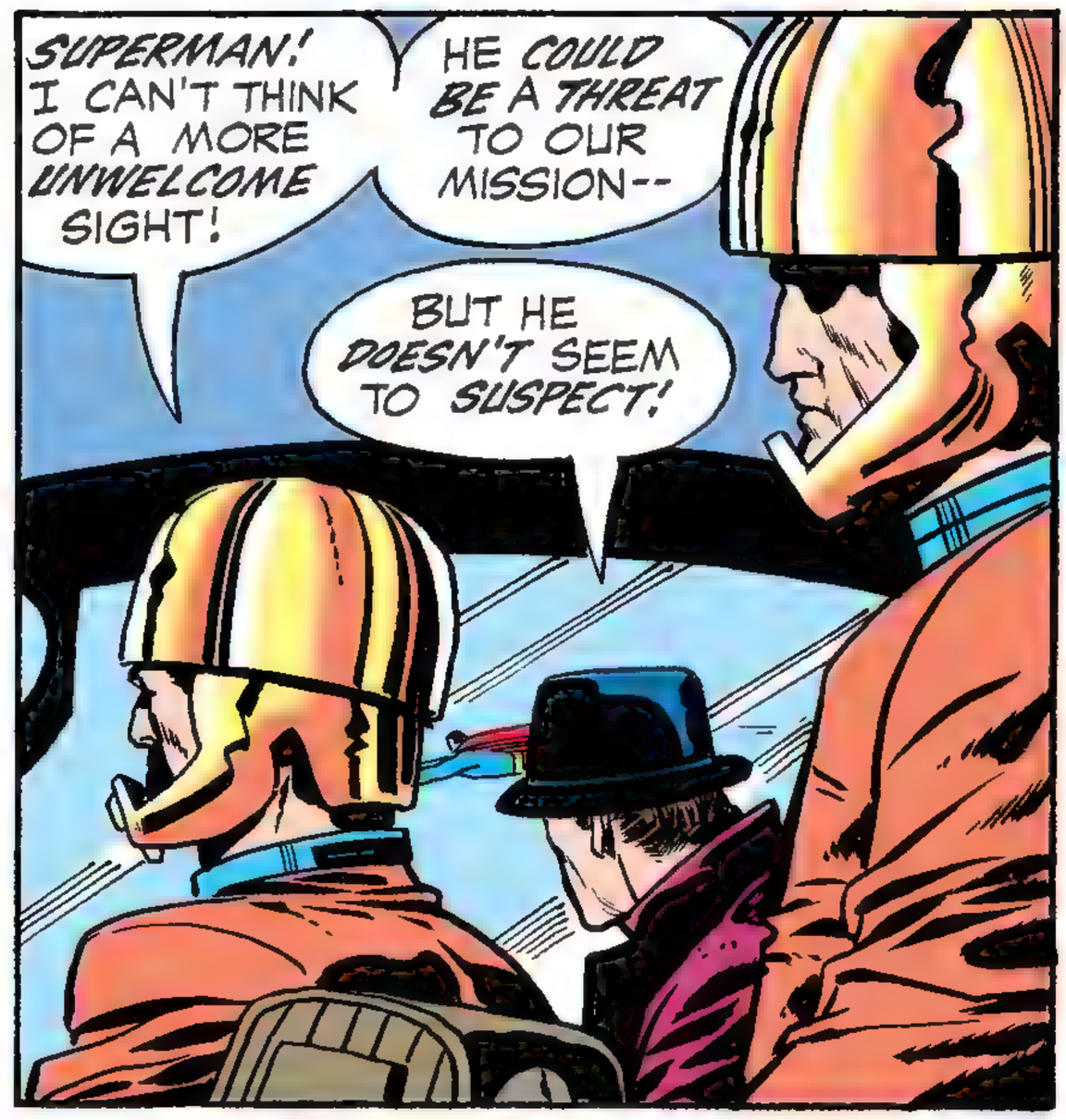
--IS TO FIND THOSE KIDS!

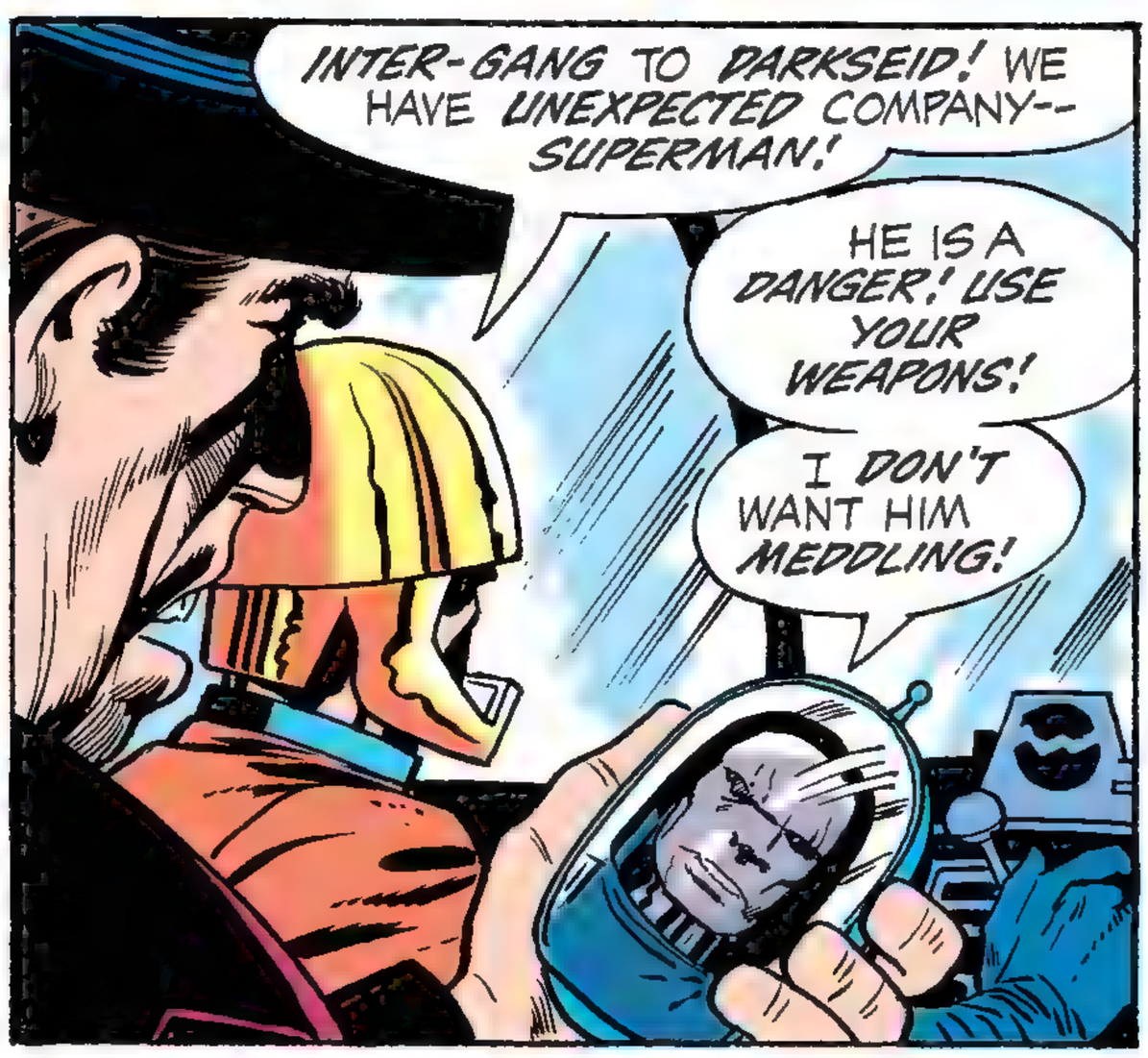
--THEY WERE HEADED FOR THE CITY--AND I DO KNOW FROM WHAT DIRECTION!

LIKE A SUPERSONIC MISSILE, SUPERMAN FLASHES ACROSS THE SKY IN PURSUIT OF WHAT COULD BE A WILL-O'-THE-WISP--OR THE END OF ALL YEARNING!

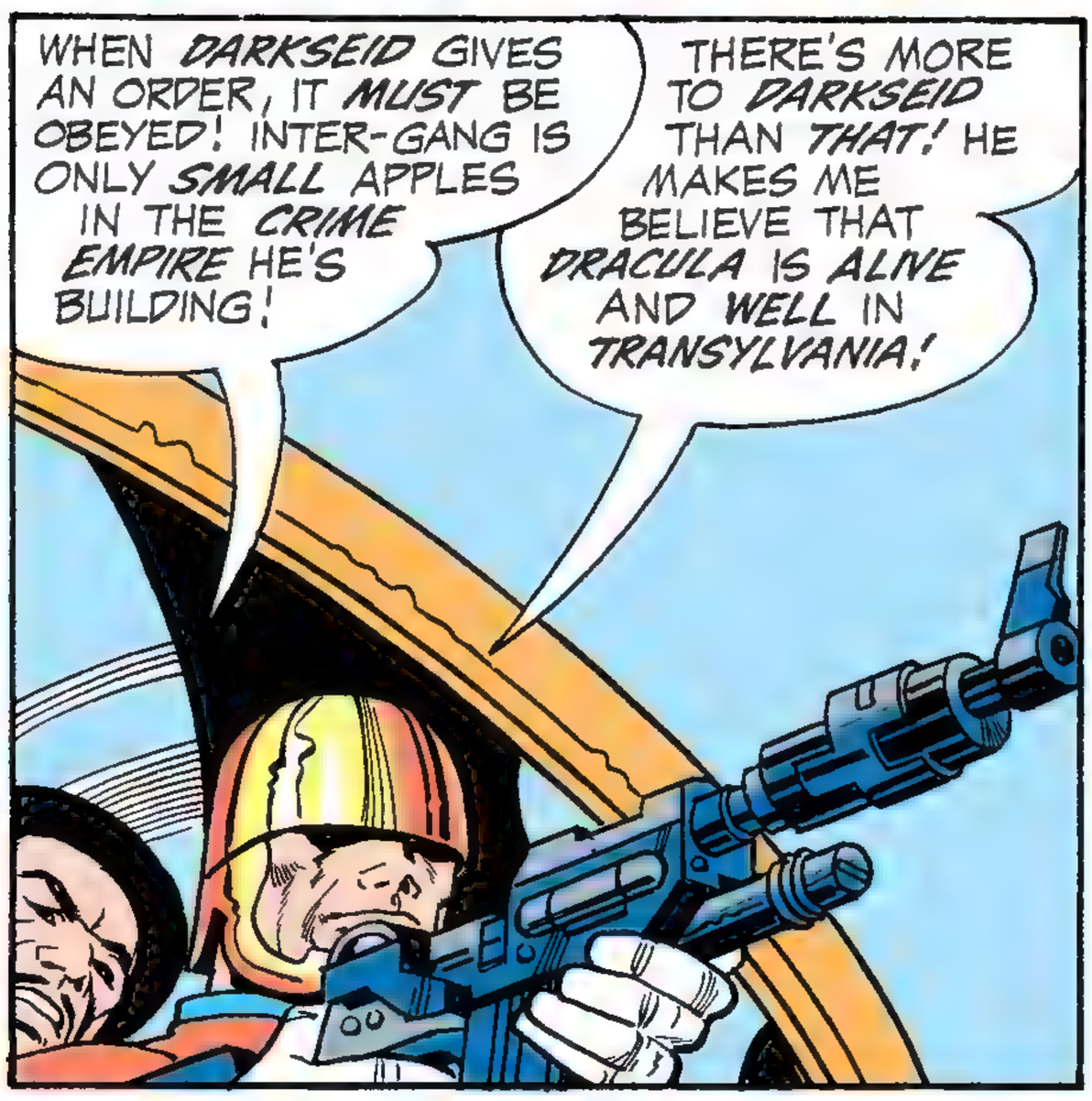
12


BUT AS SUPERMAN STREAKS ACROSS THE SKY, HE PAYS NO ATTENTION TO THE HELICOPTER ON A SIMILAR COURSE...
LOOK!--OUT THERE...!

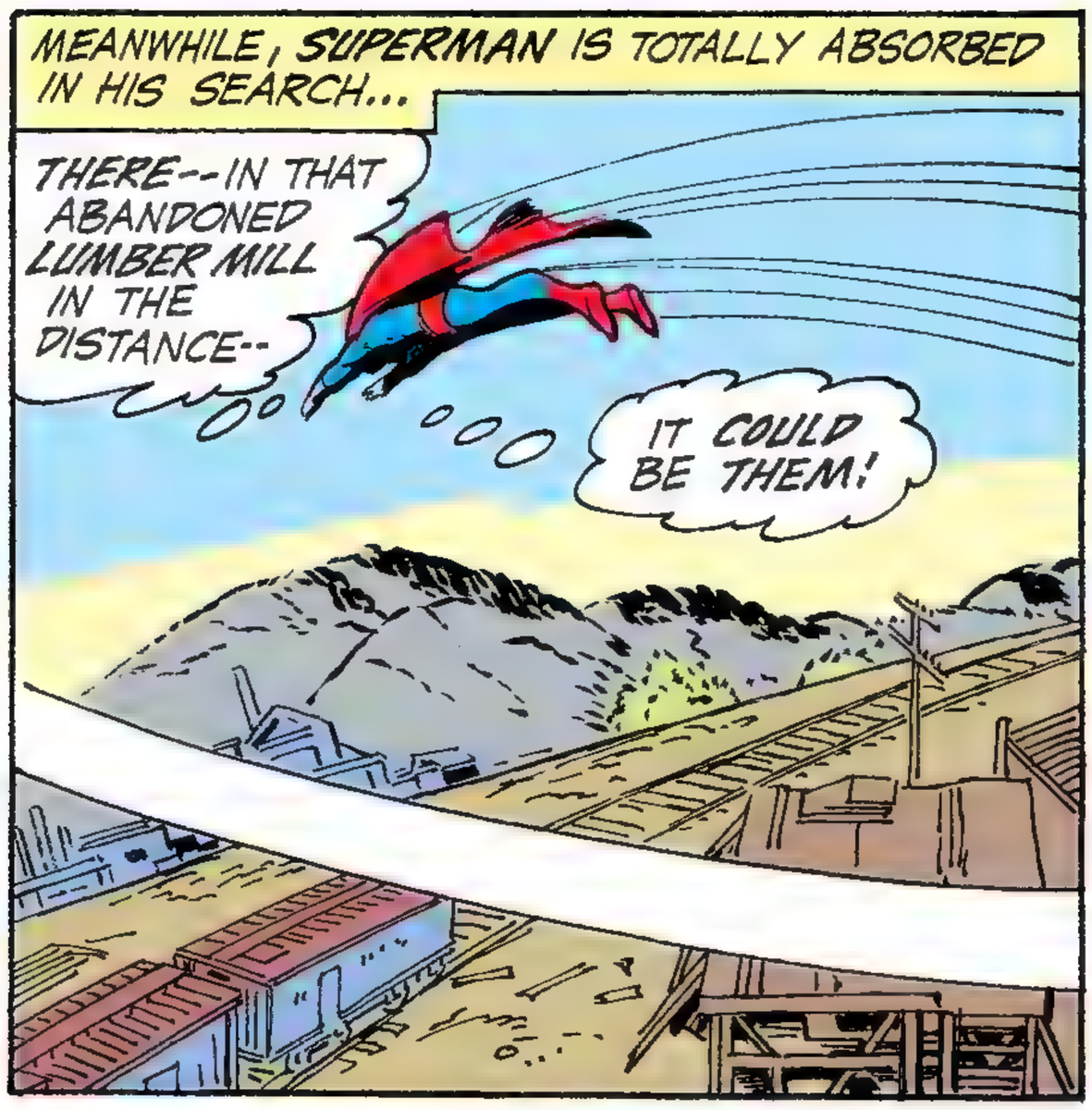

SUPERMAN! I CAN'T THINK OF A MORE UNWELCOME SIGHT!
HE COULD BE A THREAT TO OUR MISSION--
BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM TO SUSPECT!


INTER-GANG TO DARKSEID! WE HAVE UNEXPECTED COMPANY--SUPERMAN!
HE IS A DANGER! USE YOUR WEAPONS!
I DON'T WANT HIM MEDDLING!

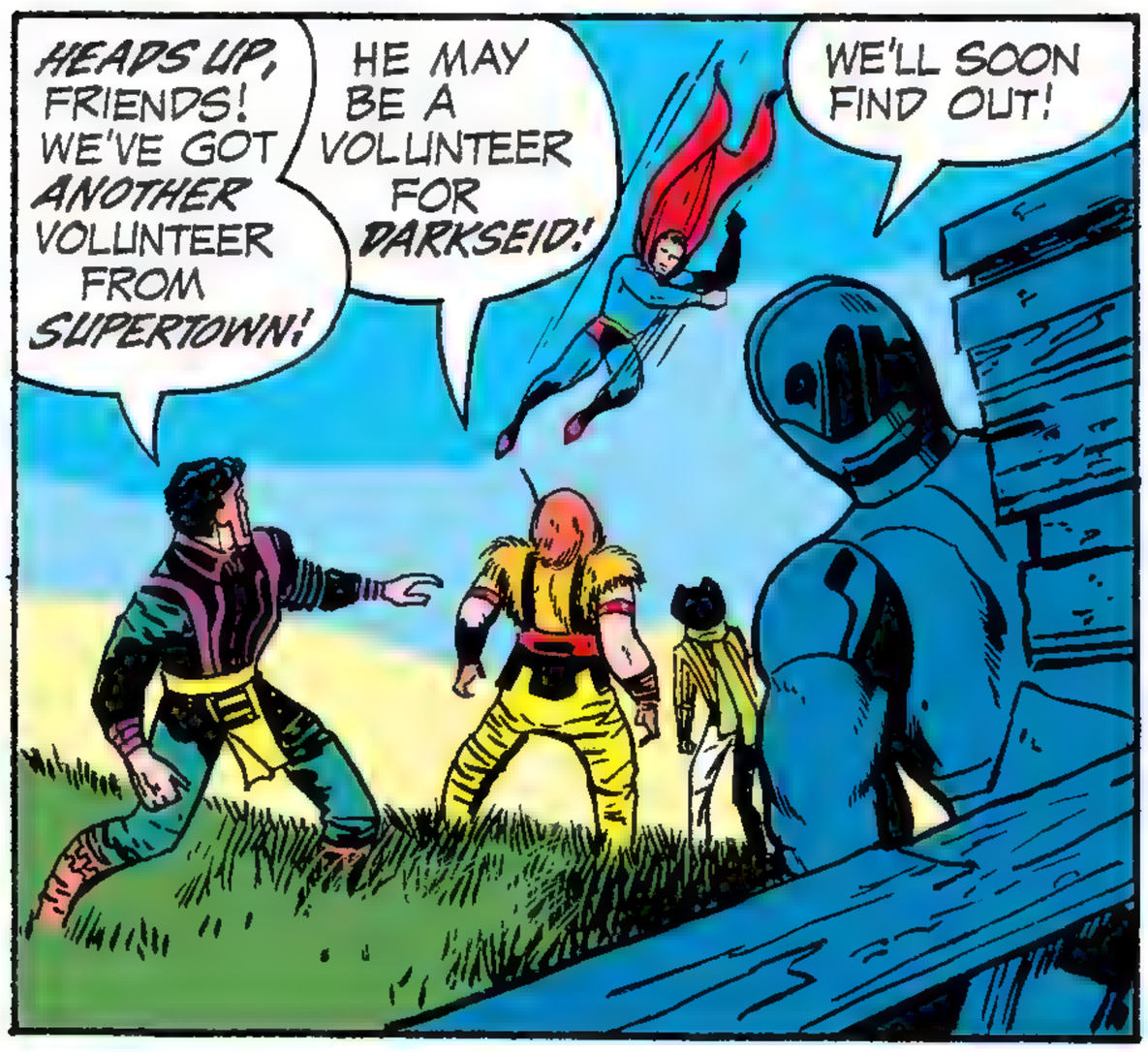
BUT CAN THESE SIGMA-GUNS DO THE JOB--? YOU KNOW OF HIS POWERS!
STUN HIM, IF YOU CAN! THAT WILL BE ENOUGH! NOW, DISTURB ME NO FURTHER!

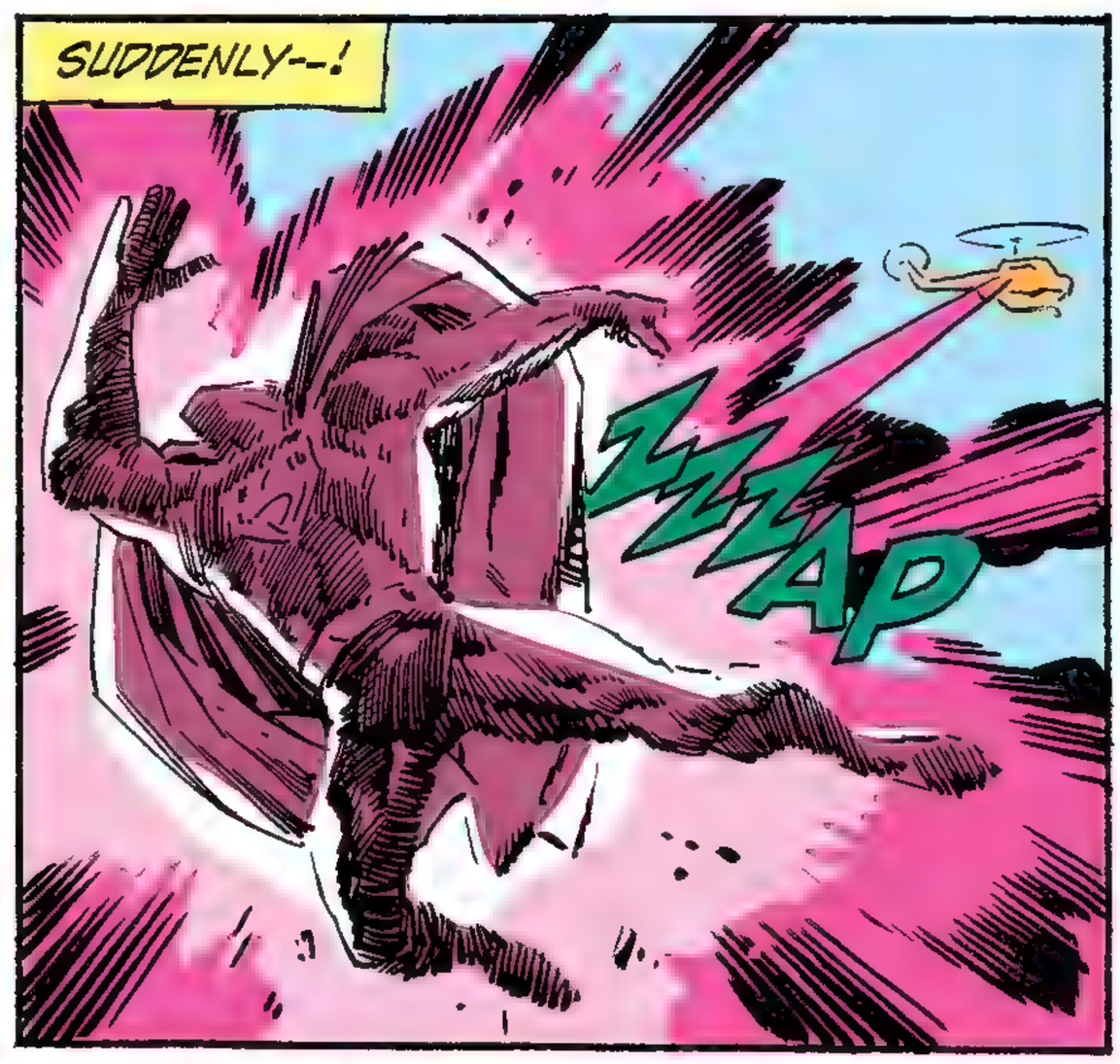

WHEN DARKSEID GIVES AN ORDER, IT MUST BE OBEYED! INTER-GANG IS ONLY SMALL APPLES IN THE CRIME EMPIRE HE'S BUILDING!
THERE'S MORE TO DARKSEID THAN THAT! HE MAKES ME BELIEVE THAT DRACULA IS ALIVE AND WELL IN TRANSYLVANIA!

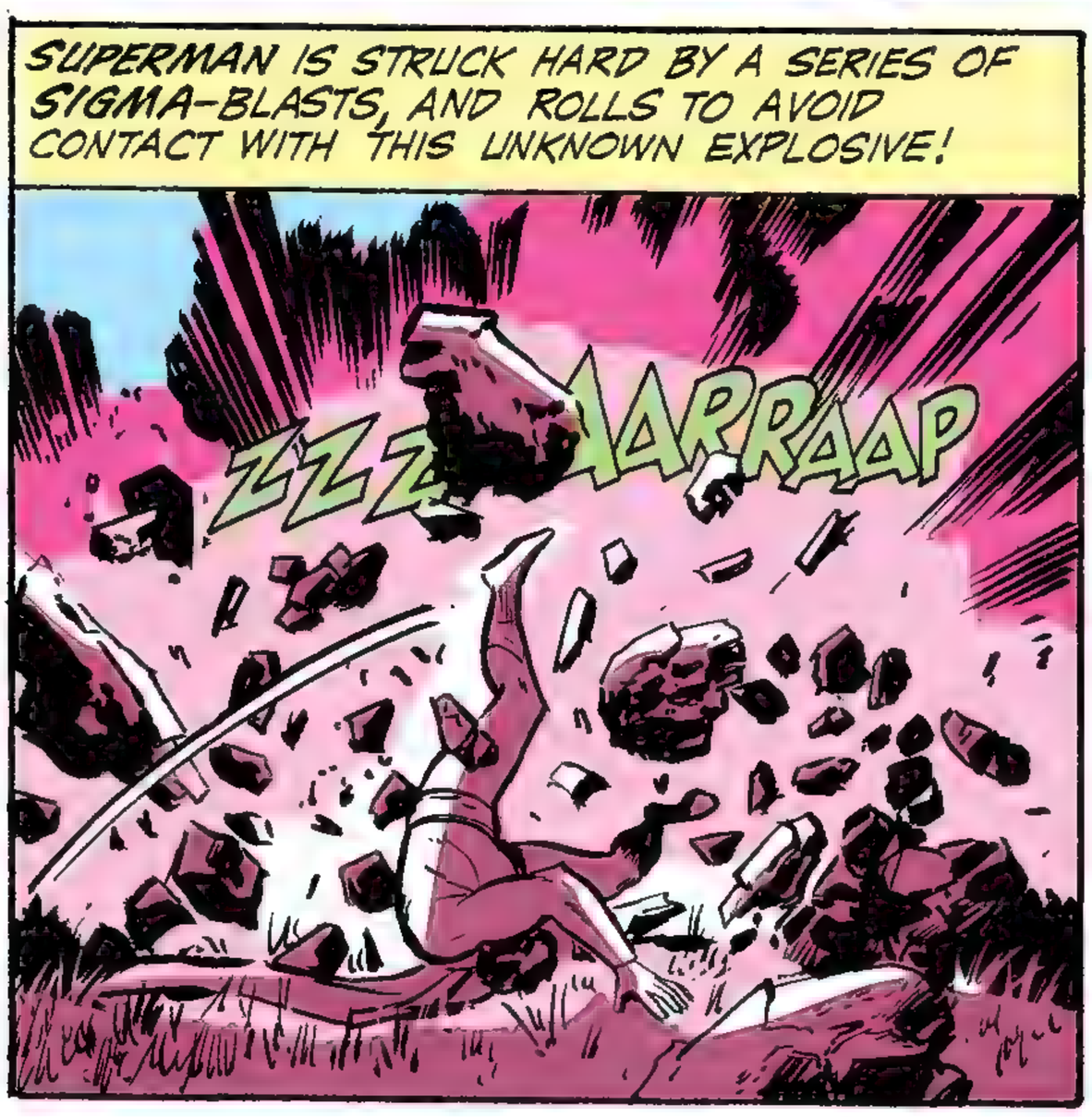
SUPERMAN HAS SPOTTED THE KIDS!
THIS IS IT! ZERO IN ON HIM-- AND DON'T MISS!

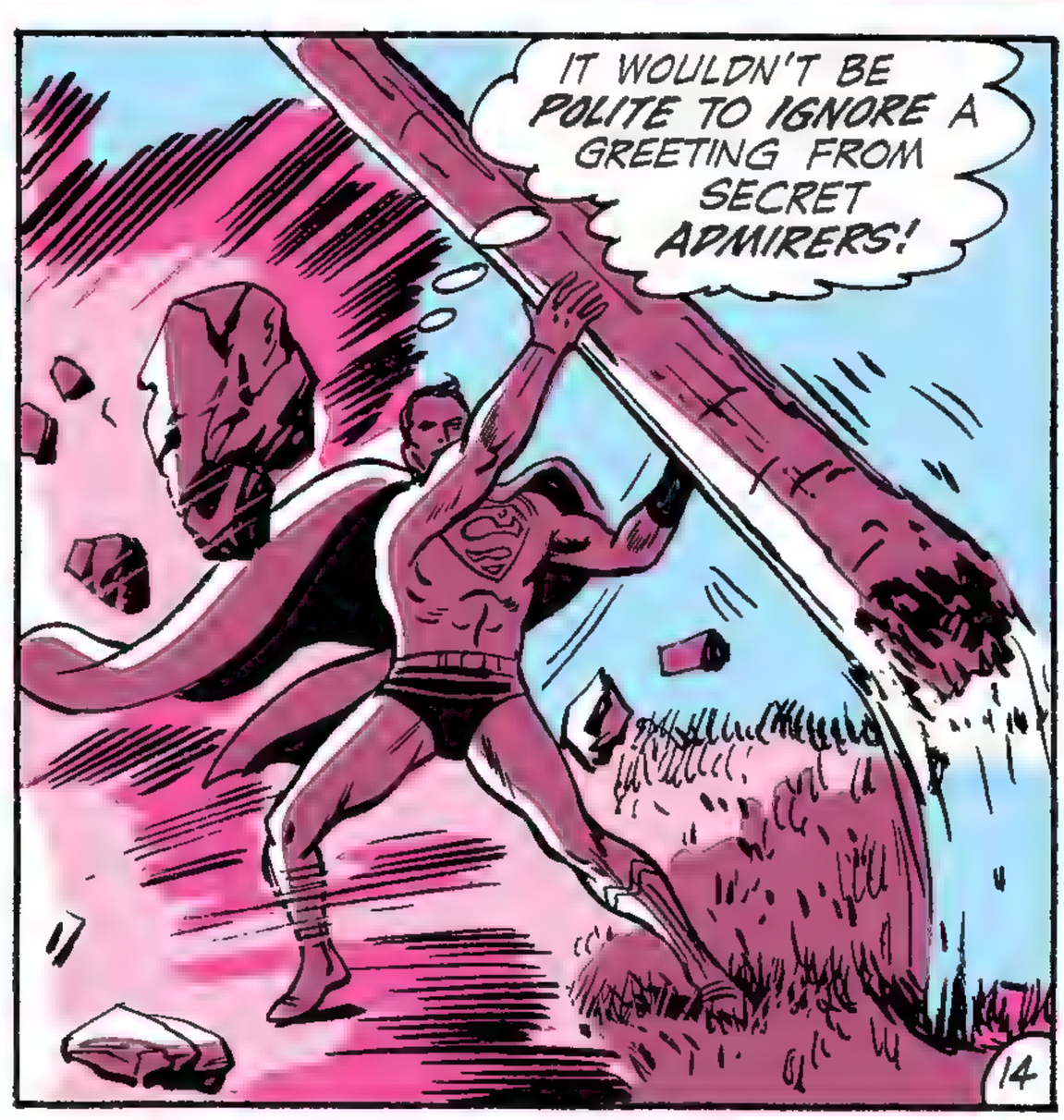

MEANWHILE, SUPERMAN IS TOTALLY ABSORBED IN HIS SEARCH...
THERE--IN THAT ABANDONED LUMBER MILL IN THE DISTANCE--
IT COULD BE THEM!

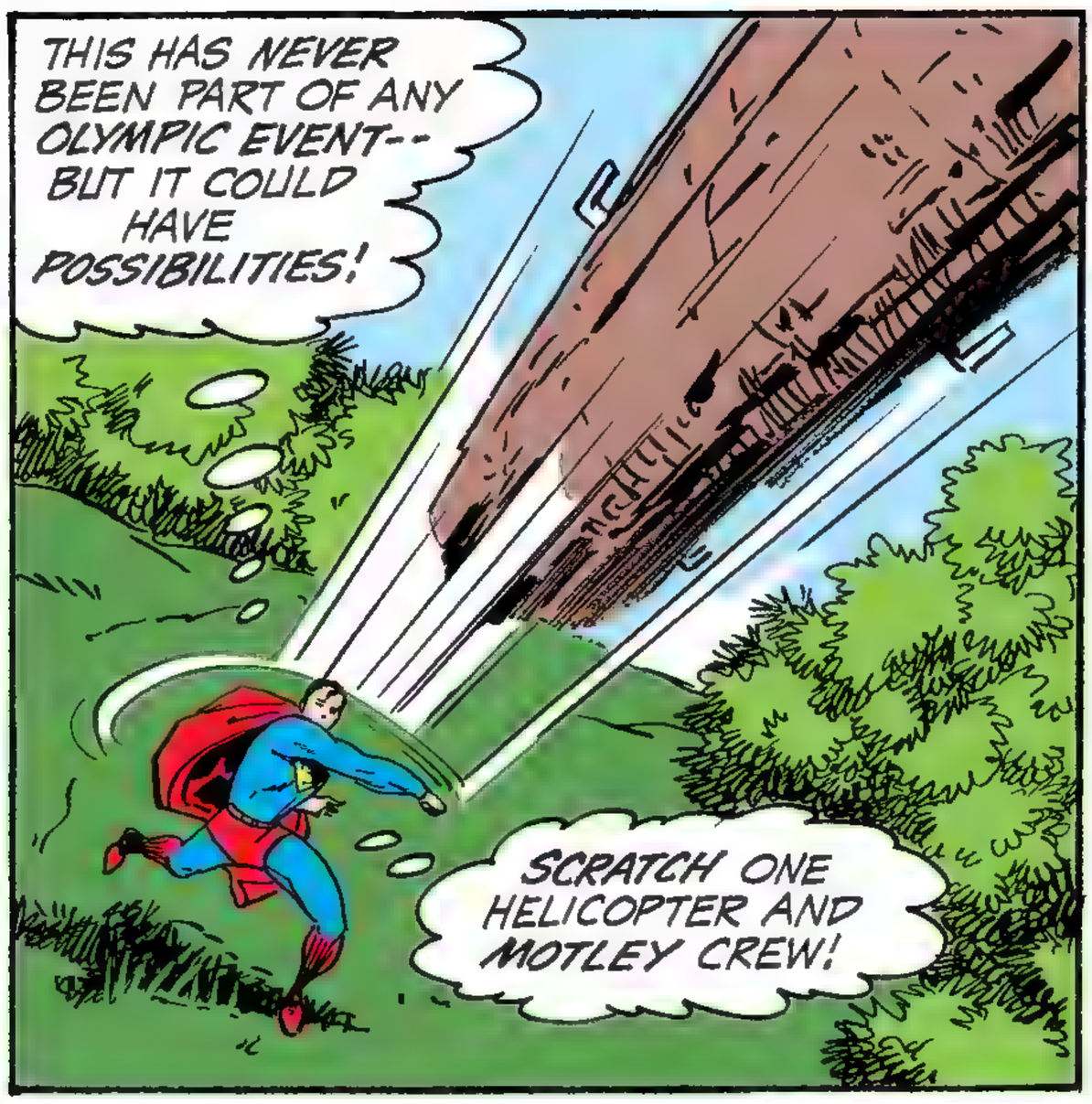
I CAN SEE THEIR COSTUMES--THAT STRANGE VEHICLE--JUST AS THEY WERE IN THOSE PHOTOS--
I'VE FOUND THEM!

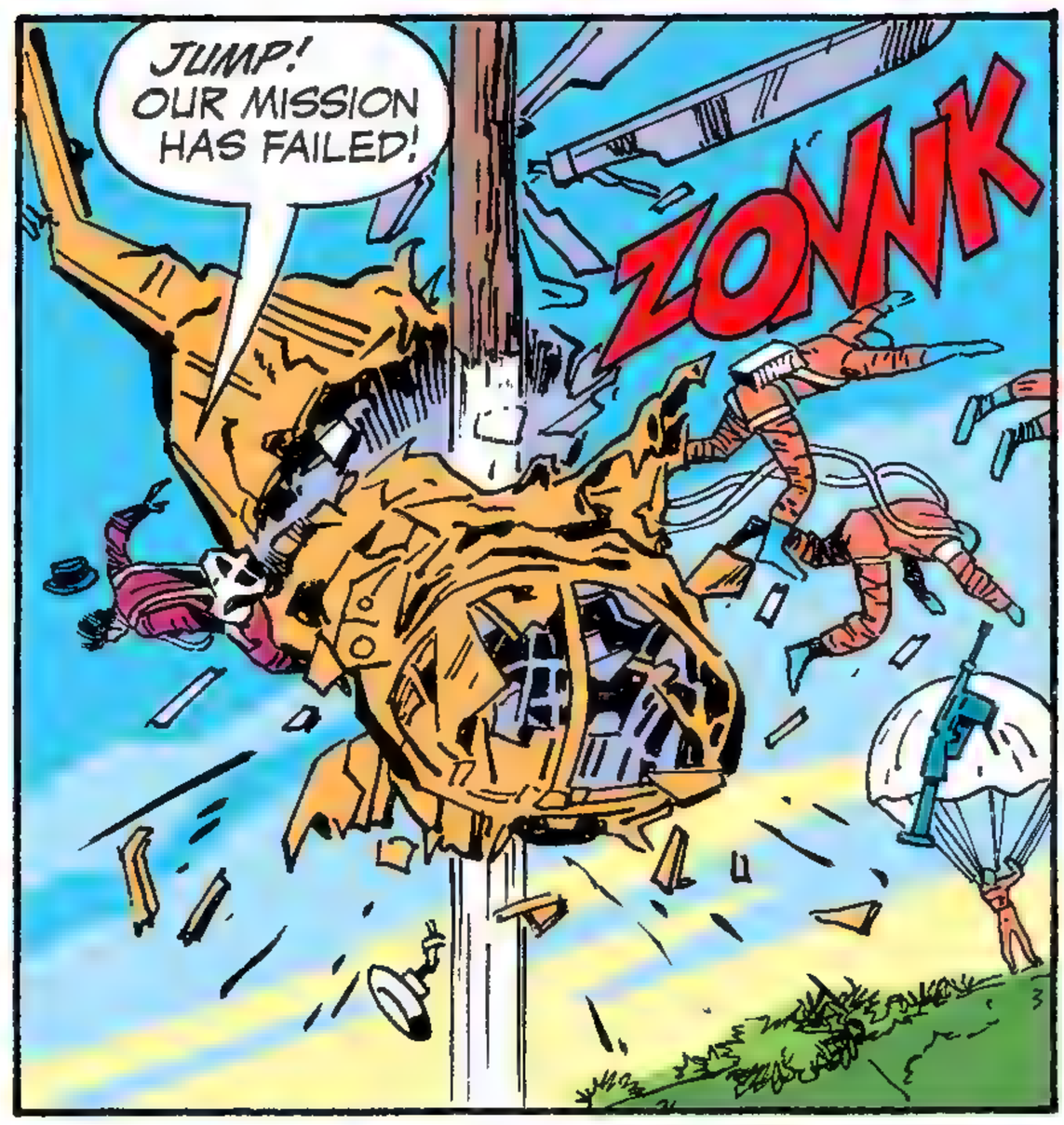

HEADS UP, FRIENDS! WE'VE GOT ANOTHER VOLUNTEER FROM SUPERTOWN!
HE MAY BE A VOLUNTEER FOR DARKSEID!
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!


SUDDENLY--!
ZZZAP

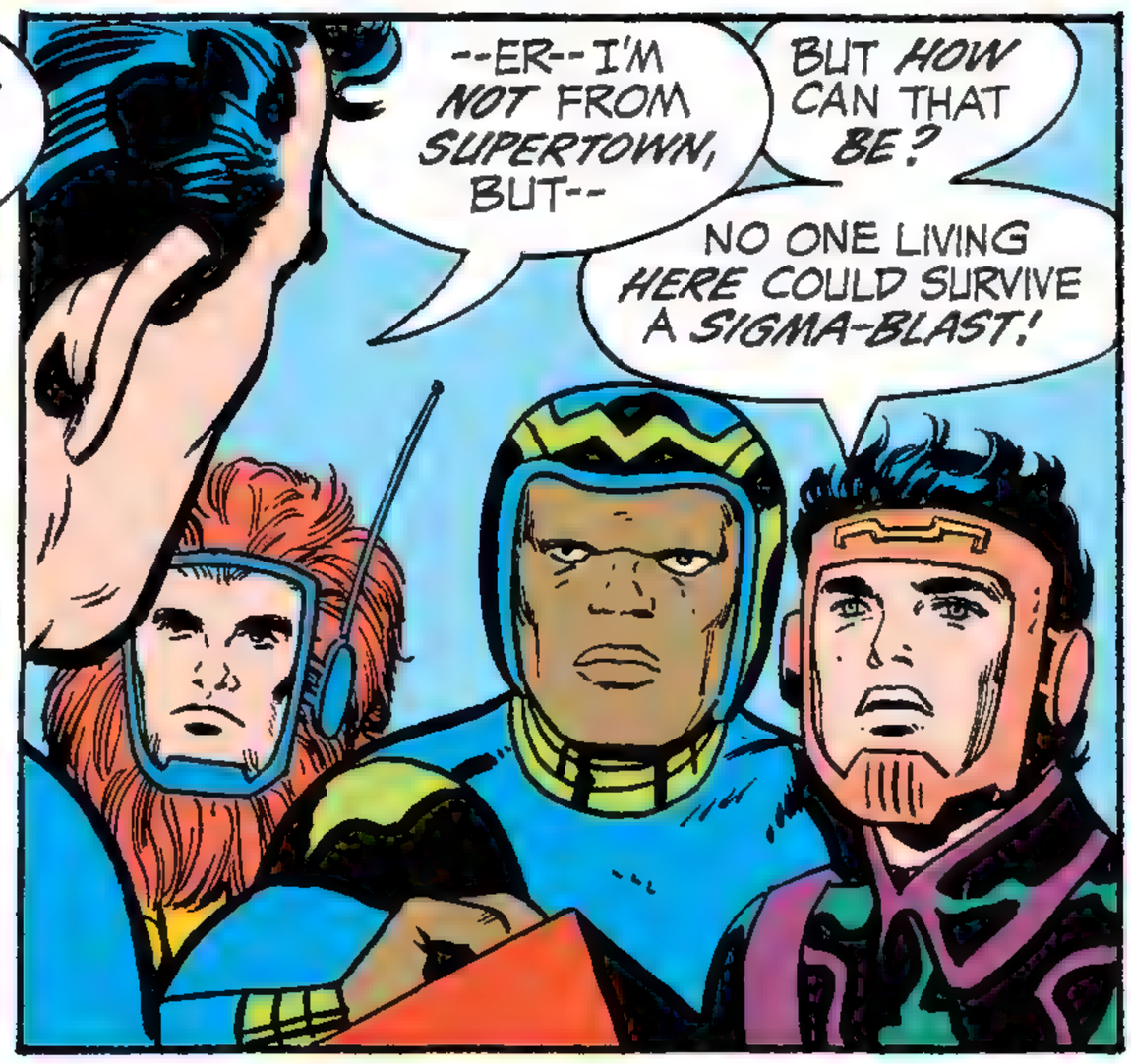

SUPERMAN IS STRUCK HARD BY A SERIES OF SIGMA-BLASTS, AND ROLLS TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THIS UNKNOWN EXPLOSIVE!
ZZZZ AARRAAP


IT WOULDN'T BE POLITE TO IGNORE A GREETING FROM SECRET ADMIRERS!
14


THIS HAS NEVER BEEN PART OF ANY OLYMPIC EVENT-- BUT IT COULD HAVE POSSIBILITIES!
SCRATCH ONE HELICOPTER AND MOTLEY CREW!

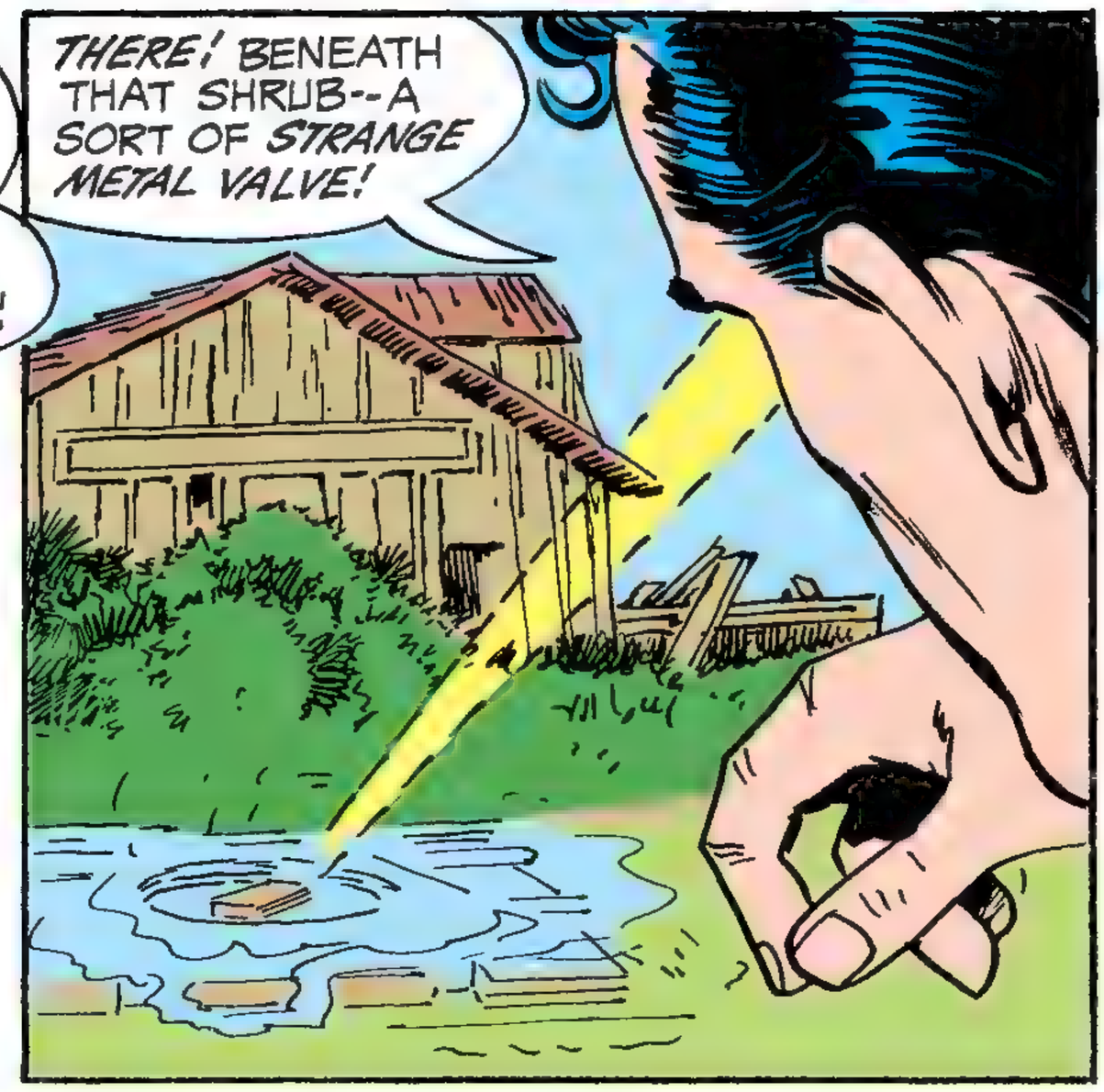

JUMP! OUR MISSION HAS FAILED!
ZONNK

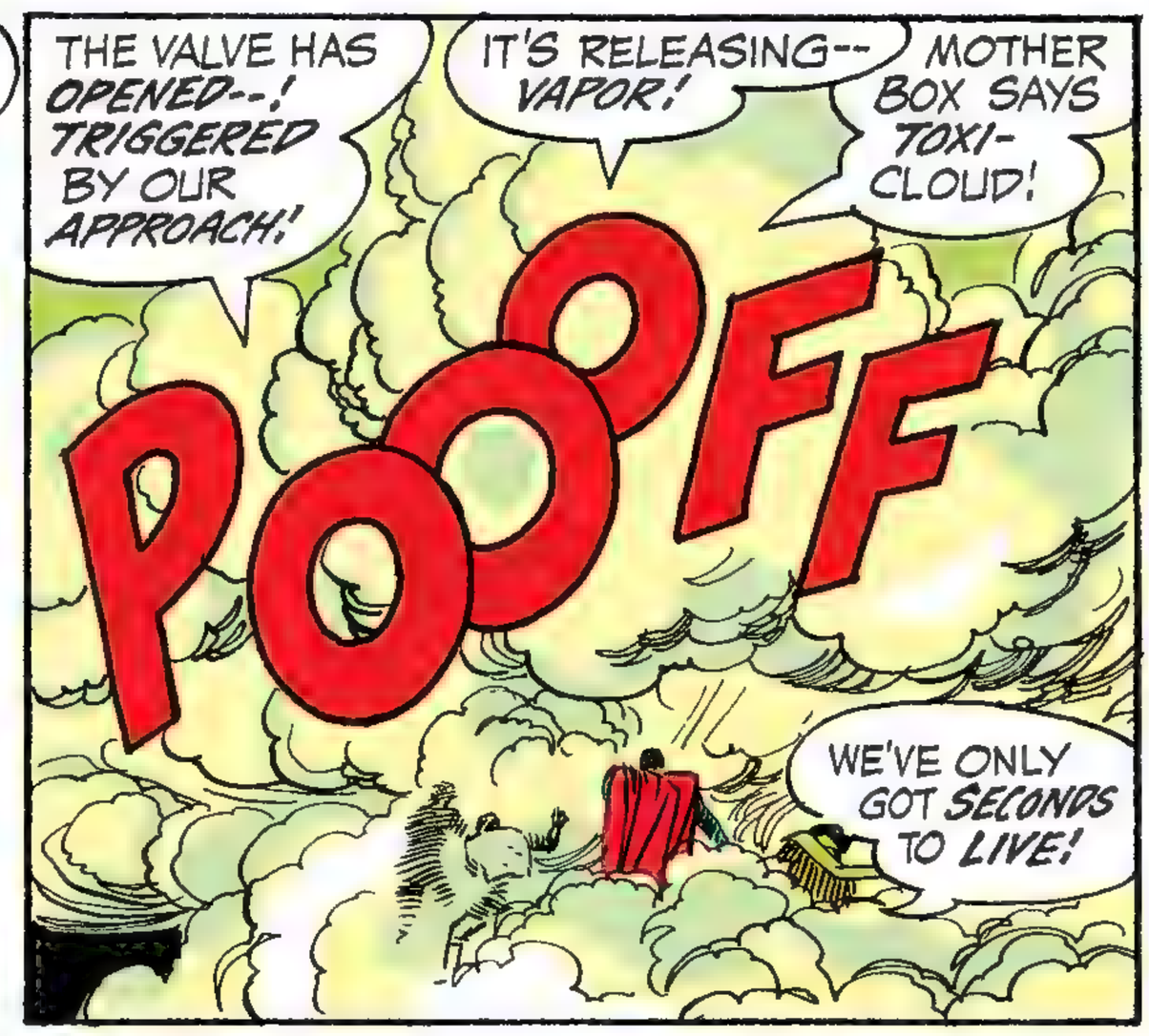
THEY'RE LANDING AND SCATTERING LIKE RABBITS!
GOOD WORK, FRIEND!
WELCOME, SUPERTOWNER! JOINING UP AGAINST DARKSEID?
WHA--?


--ER--I'M NOT FROM SUPERTOWN, BUT--
BUT HOW CAN THAT BE?
NO ONE LIVING HERE COULD SURVIVE A SIGMA-BLAST!

THIS IS NO TIME FOR SPOOFING, FRIEND--
DON'T WASTE TIME ON HIM, MOONRIDER! WE'VE GOT TO FIND BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
MOTHER BOX SAYS SHE'S HERE--
PING PING PING

BUT WHEN HER SIGNALS PROBE FOR THE RIGHT LOCATION--THEY ARE SCATTERED BY A COUNTER-FORCE!
I MUST GAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF THESE SUPER-KIDS-- IF I EVER HOPE TO ACHIEVE WHAT I CAME FOR!
15





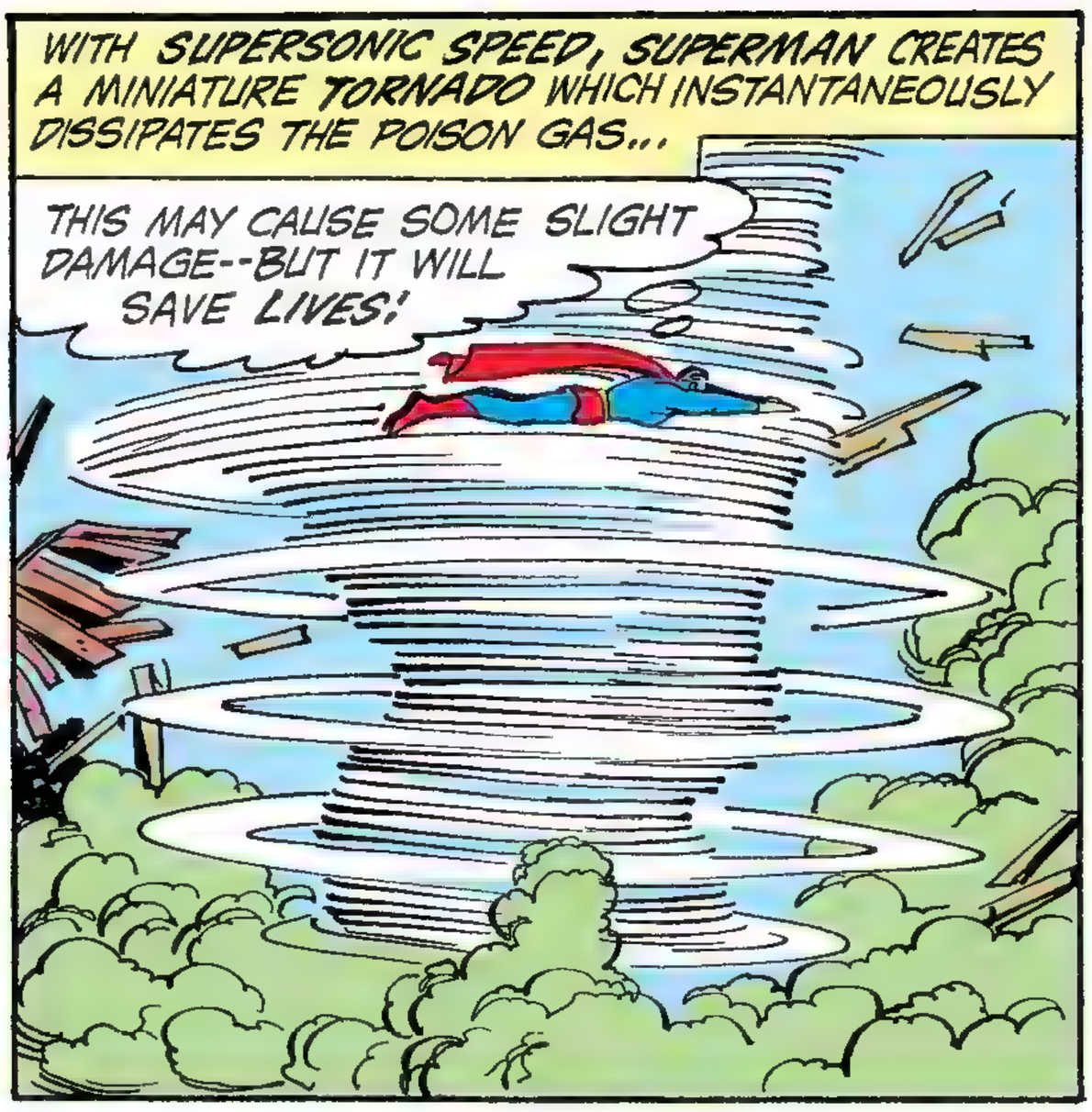
THAT'S ALL I'LL NEED! BUT I HOPE SECONDS WILL BE ENOUGH!

USE--MOTHER BOX-- SHE'LL PROTECT--

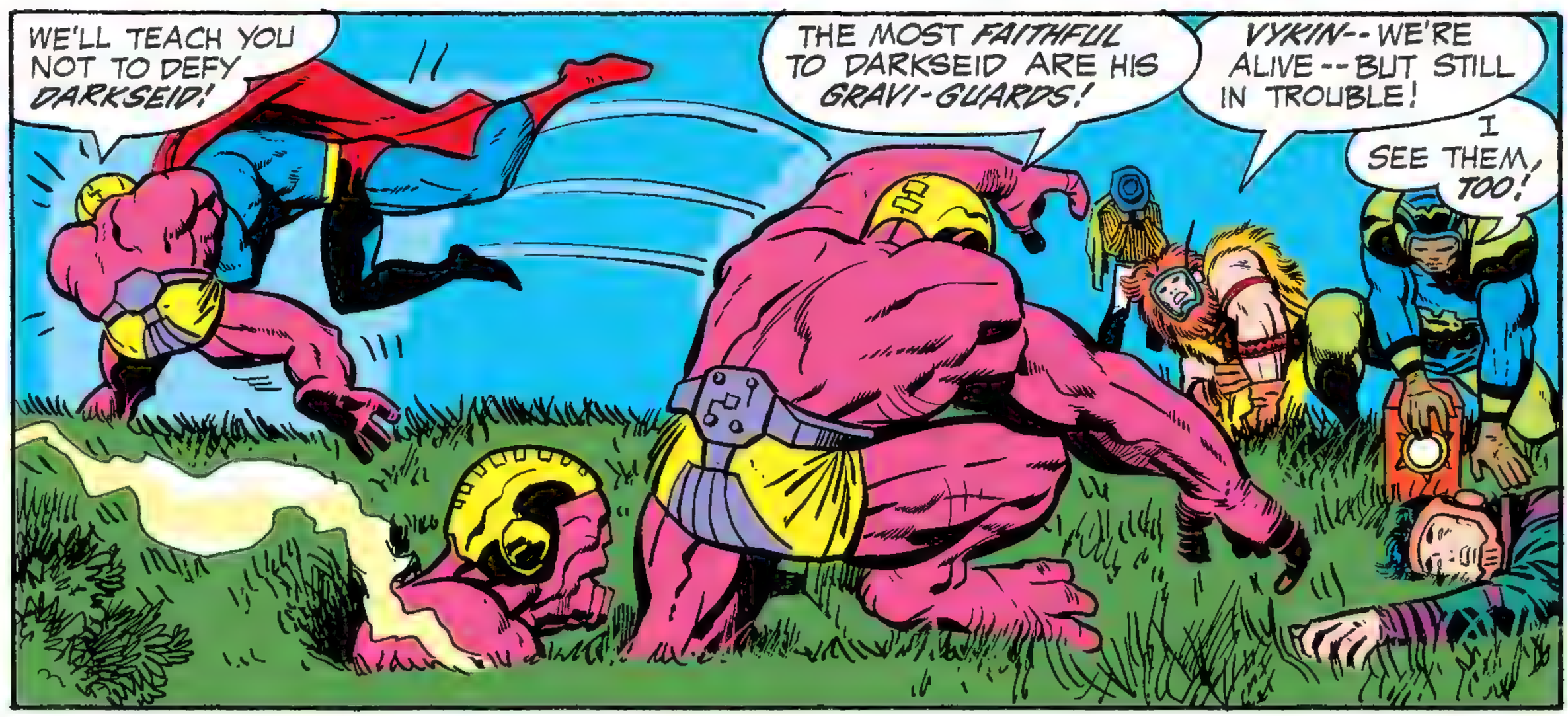
NO USE-- SHE CAN'T FUNCTION IN THIS AREA--

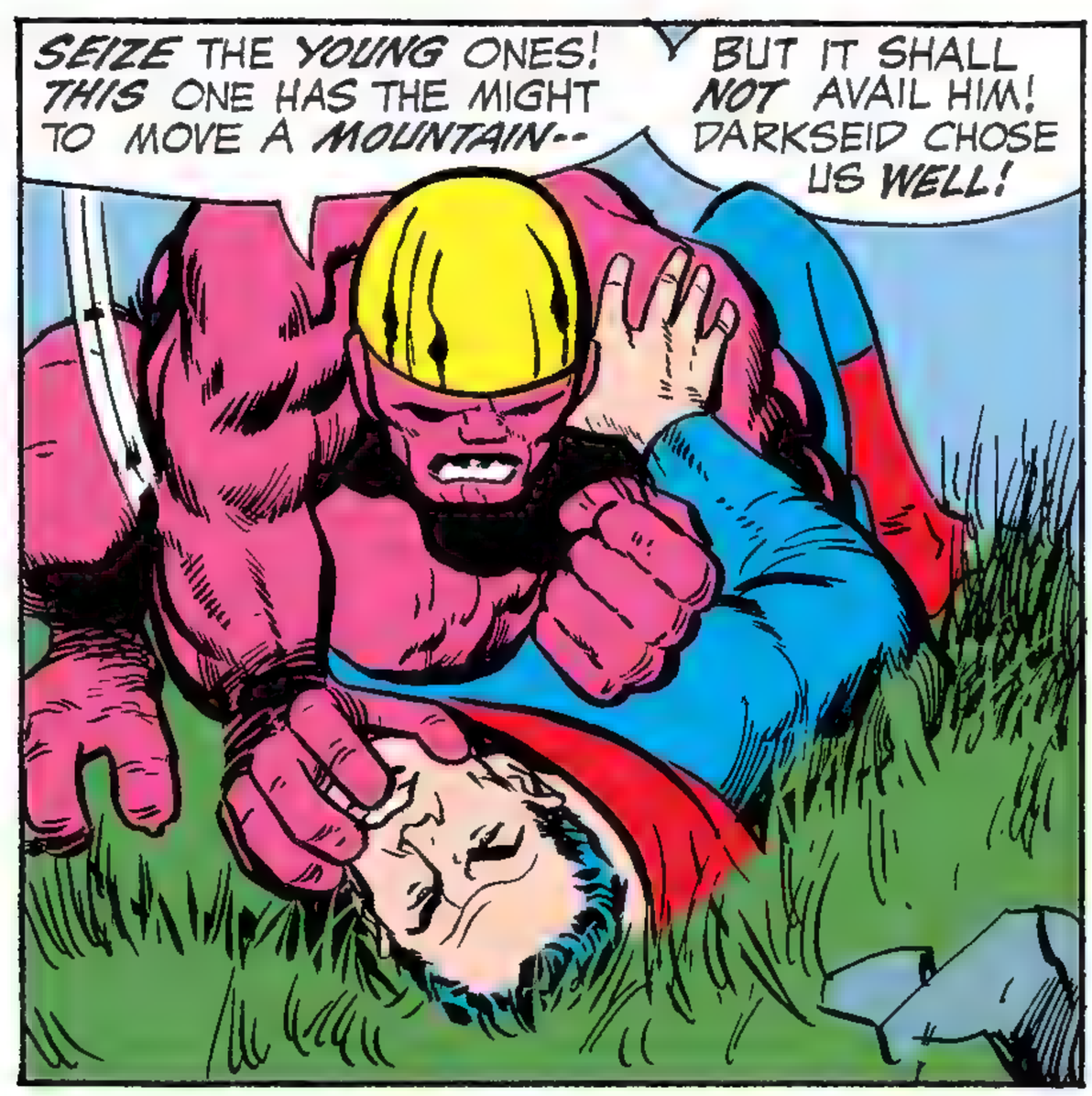
THE GROUND MUST BE CRAWLING WITH DARKSEID'S EVIL MACHINES!

16

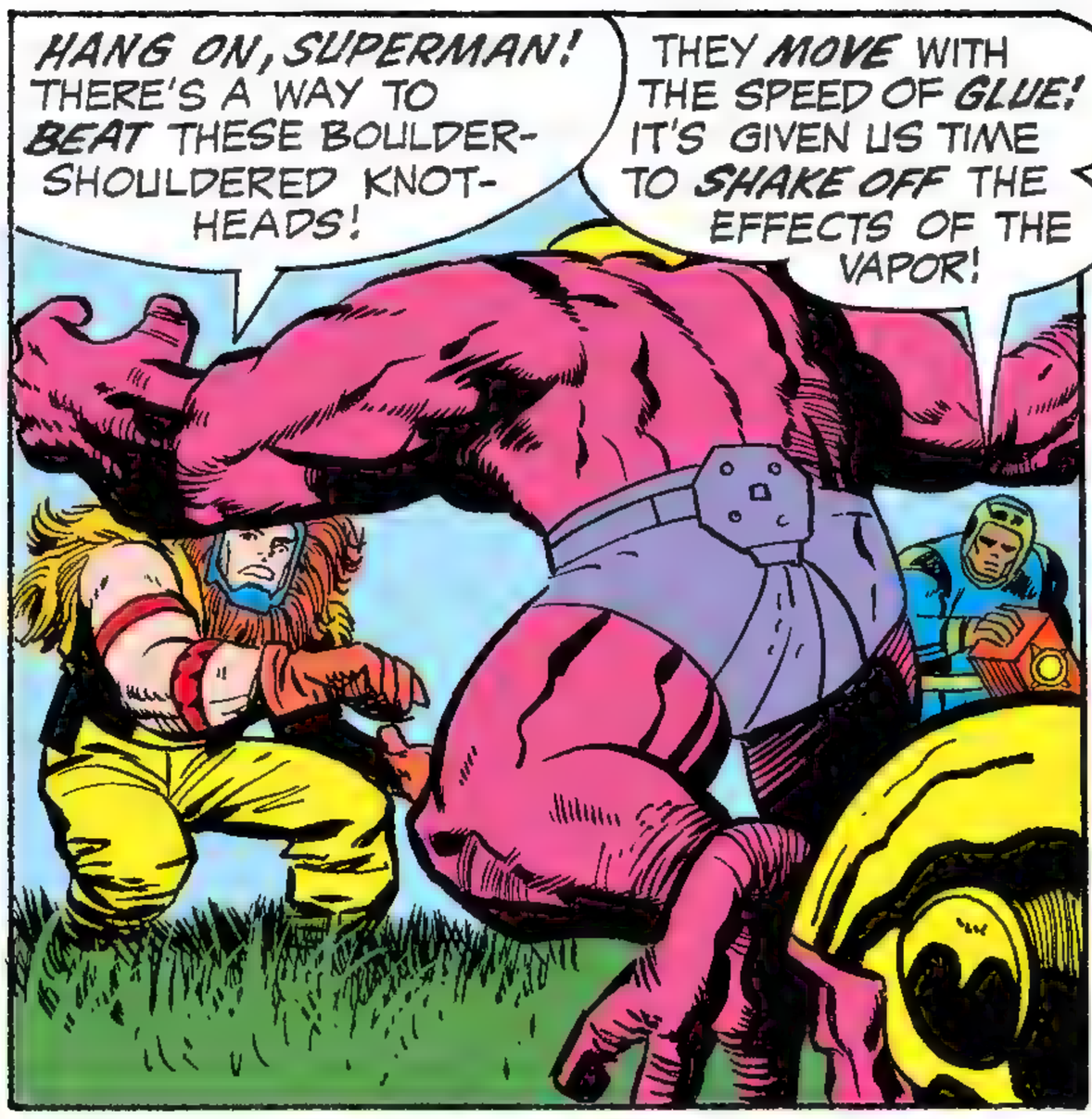

WITH SUPERSONIC SPEED, SUPERMAN CREATES A MINIATURE TORNADO WHICH INSTANTANEOUSLY DISSIPATES THE POISON GAS...
THIS MAY CAUSE SOME SLIGHT DAMAGE--BUT IT WILL SAVE LIVES!

BUT THERE ARE NEW SURPRISES WAITING!
HANDS!--REACHING FOR ME!--I'M MOVING TOO FAST TO ESCAPE THEM!

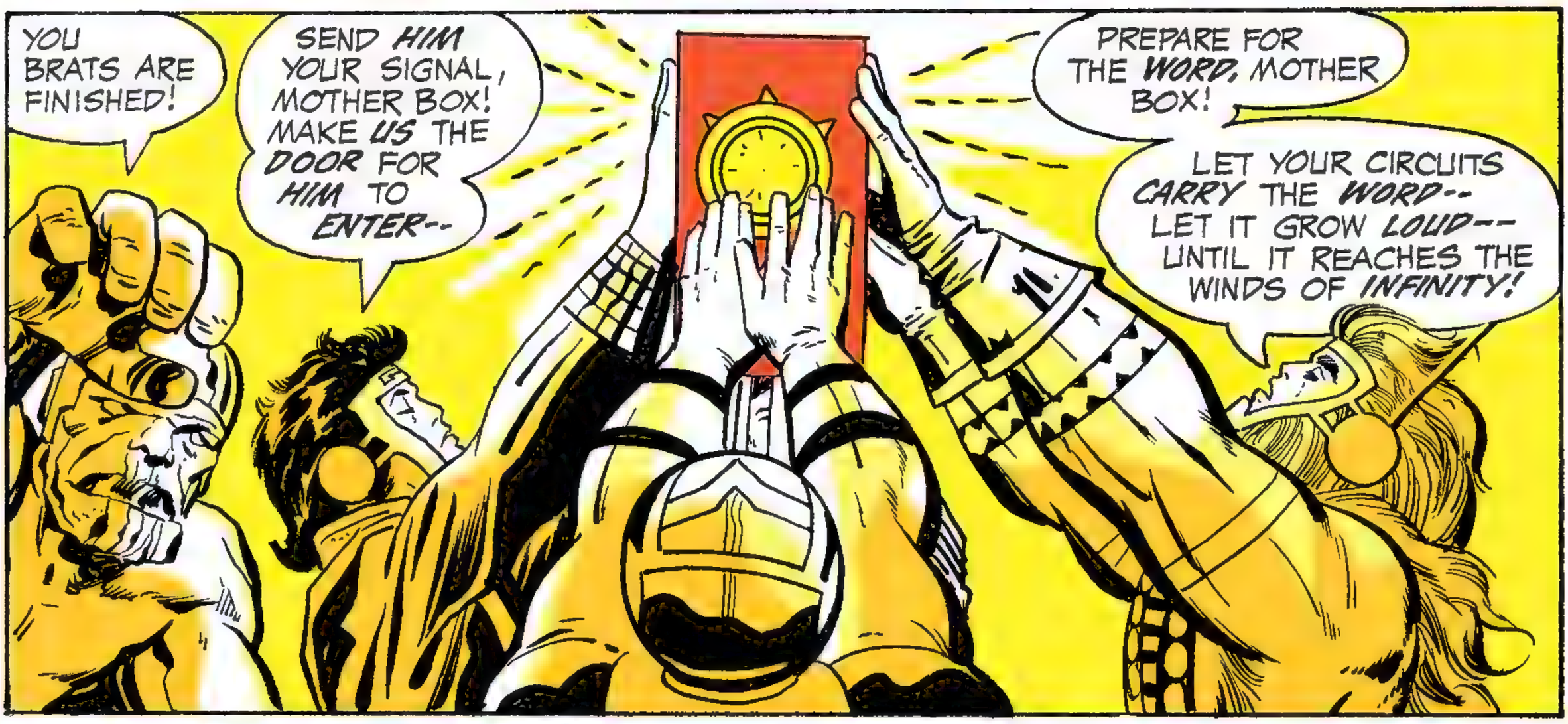

WE'LL TEACH YOU NOT TO DEFY DARKSEID!
THE MOST FAITHFUL TO DARKSEID ARE HIS GRAVI-GUARDS!
VYKIN--WE'RE ALIVE--BUT STILL IN TROUBLE!
I SEE THEM, TOO!

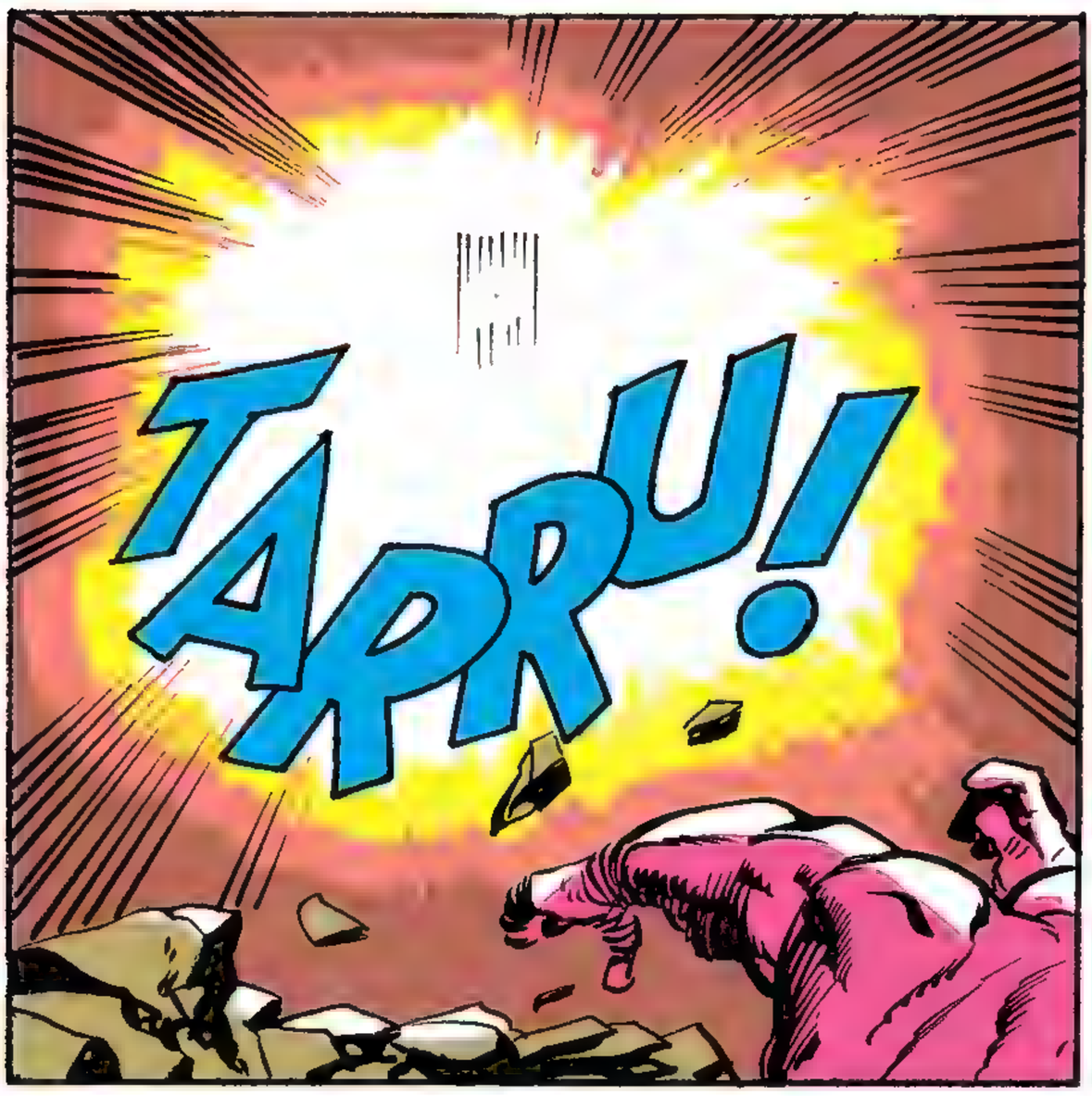

SEIZE THE YOUNG ONES! THIS ONE HAS THE MIGHT TO MOVE A MOUNTAIN--
BUT IT SHALL NOT AVAIL HIM! DARKSEID CHOSE US WELL!

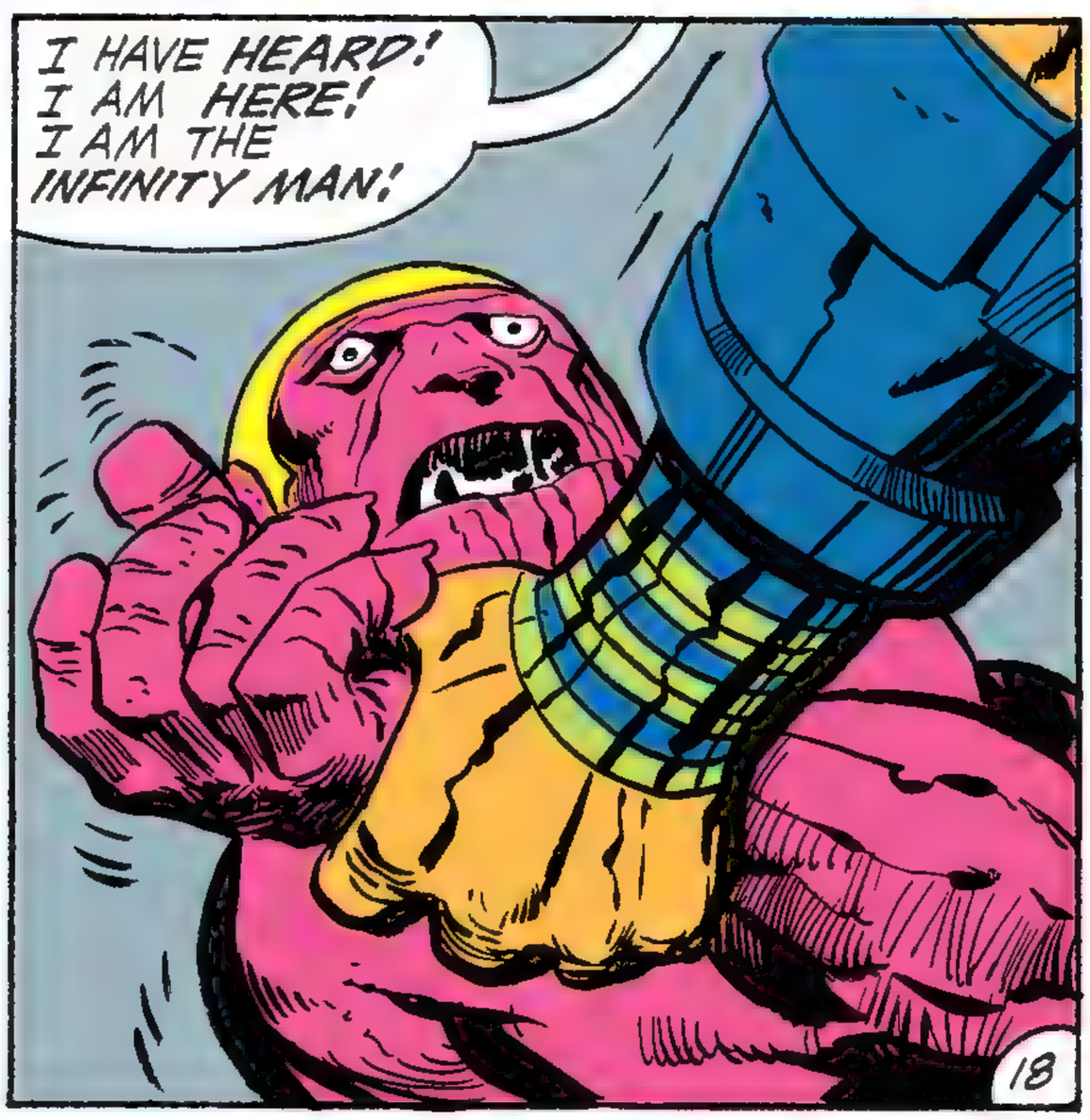
WE TRANSMIT GRAVITY WAVES FROM HEAVY MASS GALAXIES--WE CAN HOLD ANY SUPER-BEING!
IT'S TRUE--THERE IS INCREDIBLE, CRUSHING WEIGHT BEING CHANNELED INTO MY BODY!
17

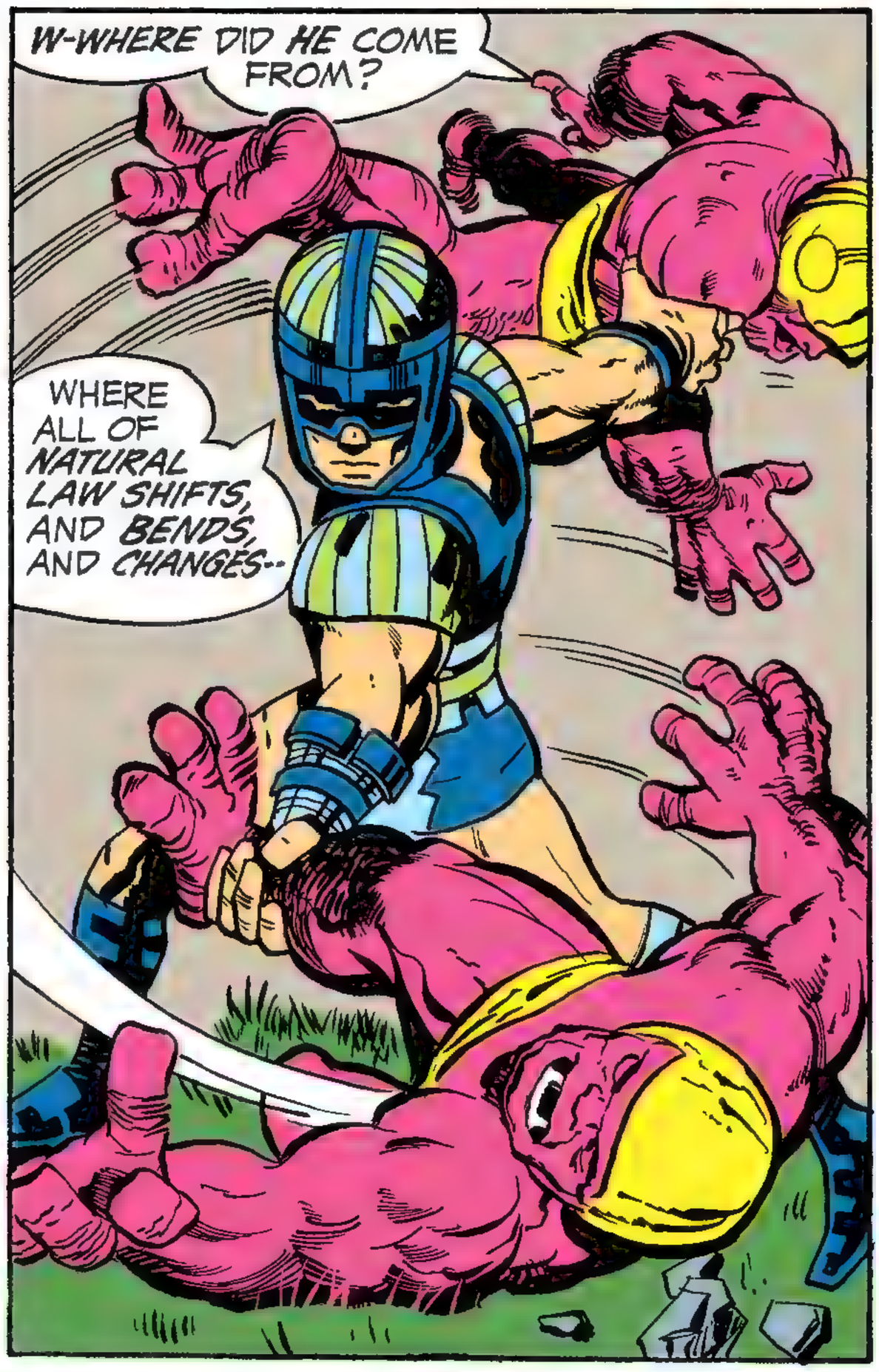

HANG ON, SUPERMAN! THERE'S A WAY TO BEAT THESE BOULDER-SHOULDERED KNOT-HEADS!
THEY MOVE WITH THE SPEED OF GLUE! IT'S GIVEN US TIME TO SHAKE OFF THE EFFECTS OF THE VAPOR!

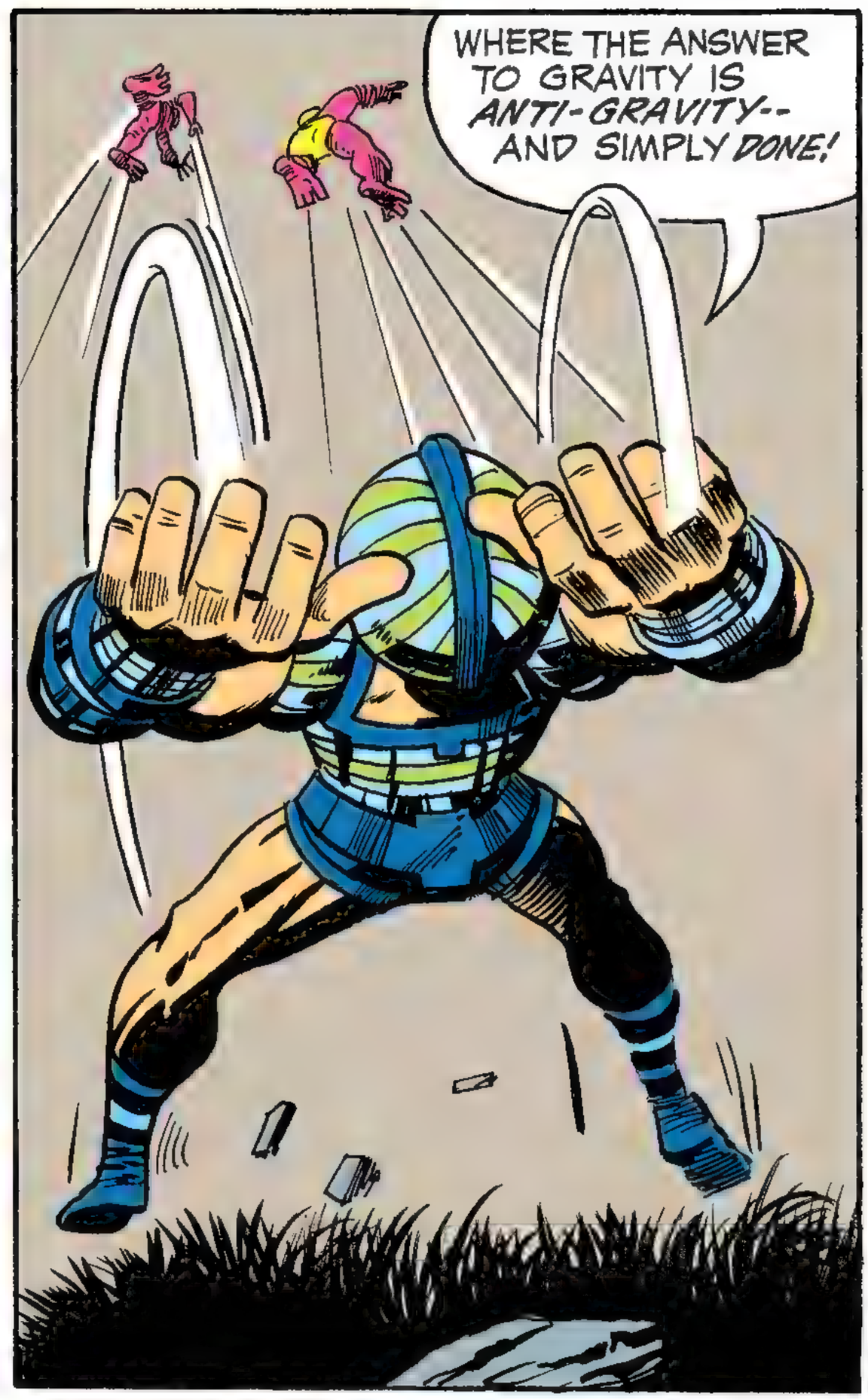
--AND RELEASE THE ONE WHO LIVES OUTSIDE OF ALL THINGS FINITE!
QUICK! --ASK MOTHER FOR THE RITUAL!
RISE, MOTHER BOX-- UNITE US AS ONE--

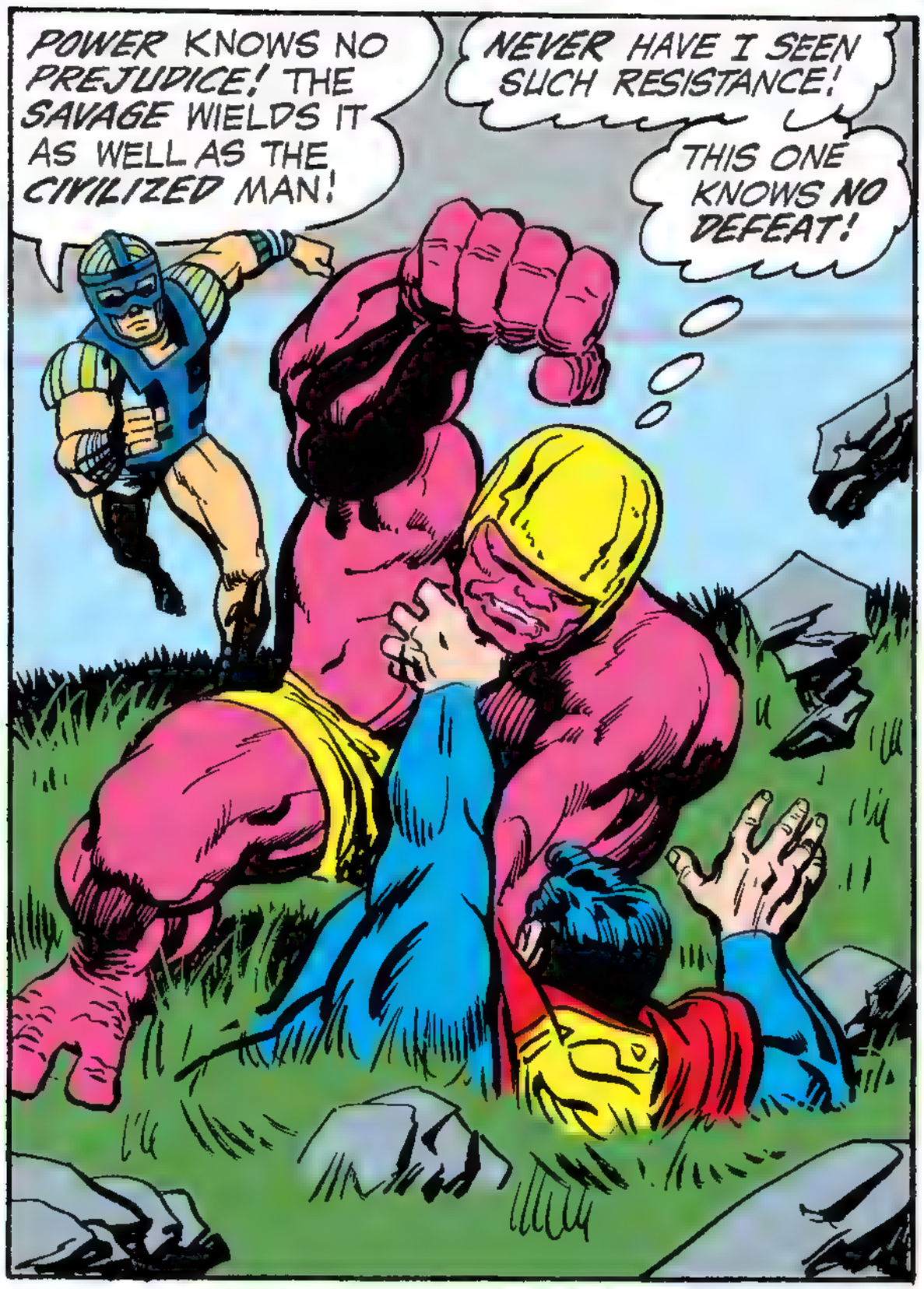

YOU BRATS ARE FINISHED!
SEND HIM YOUR SIGNAL, MOTHER BOX! MAKE US THE DOOR FOR HIM TO ENTER--
PREPARE FOR THE WORD, MOTHER BOX!
LET YOUR CIRCUITS CARRY THE WORD-- LET IT GROW LOUD-- UNTIL IT REACHES THE WINDS OF INFINITY!

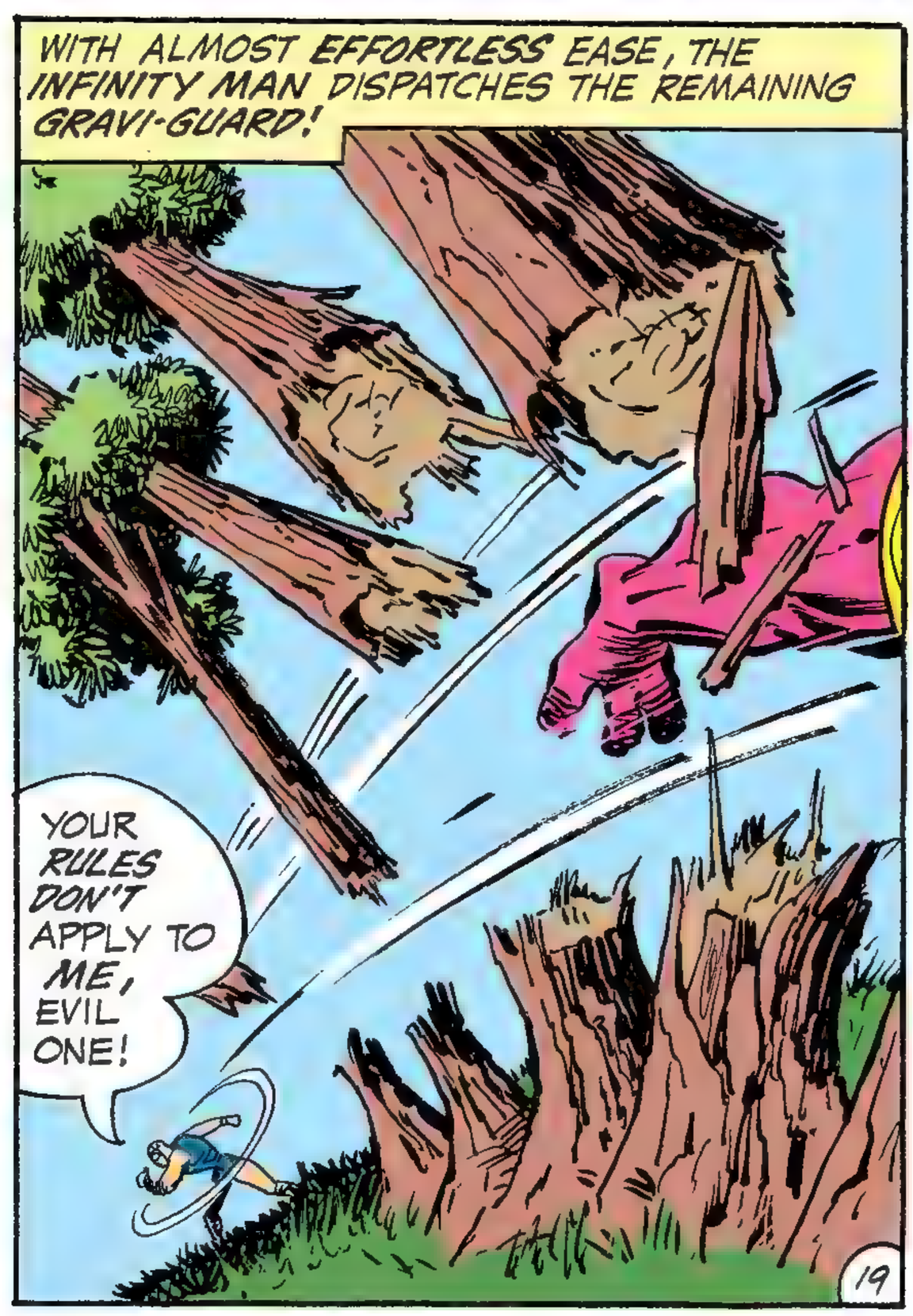

TARRU!

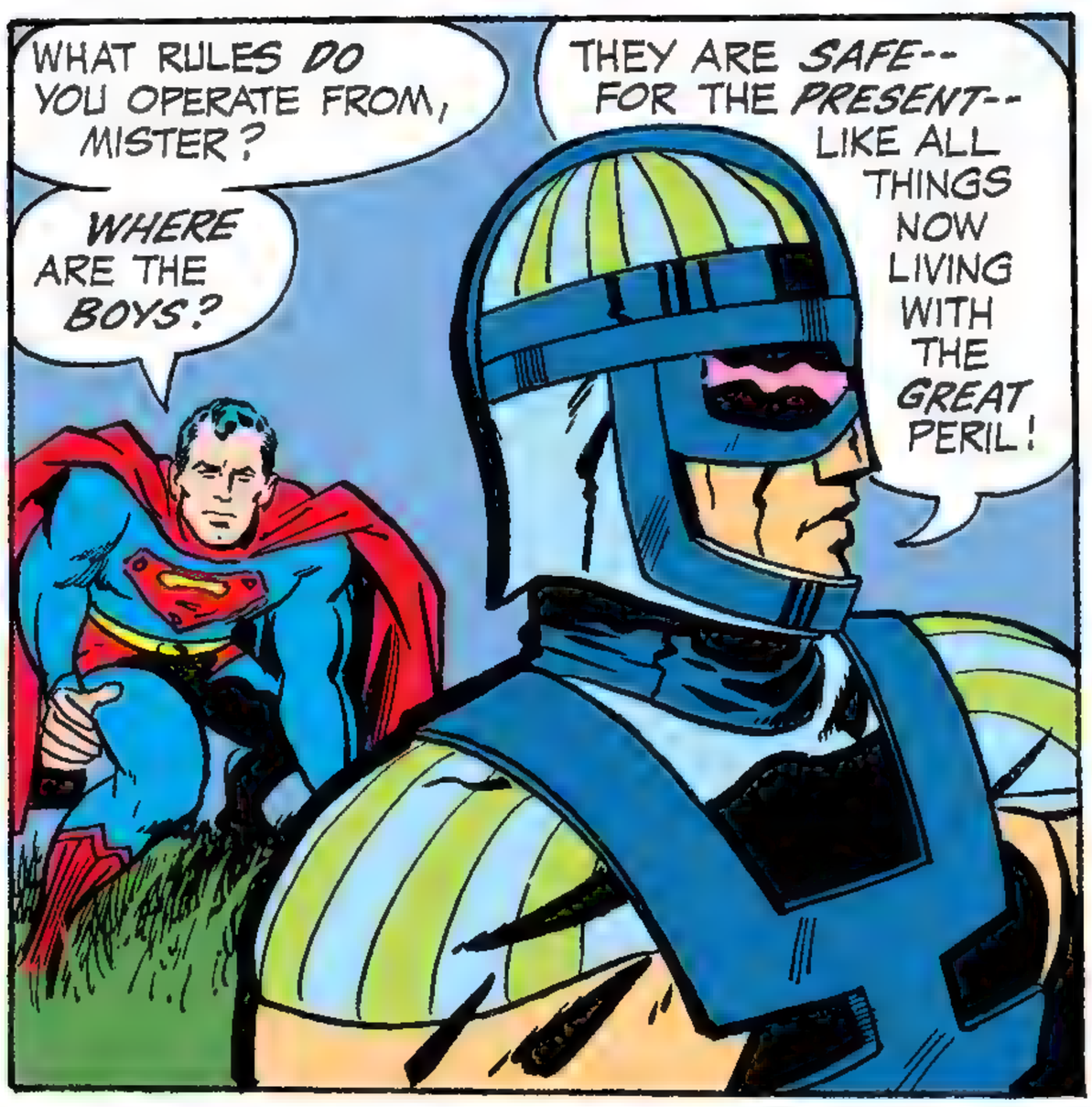

I HAVE HEARD! I AM HERE! I AM THE INFINITY MAN!
18


W-WHERE DID HE COME FROM?
WHERE ALL OF NATURAL LAW SHIFTS, AND BENDS, AND CHANGES--

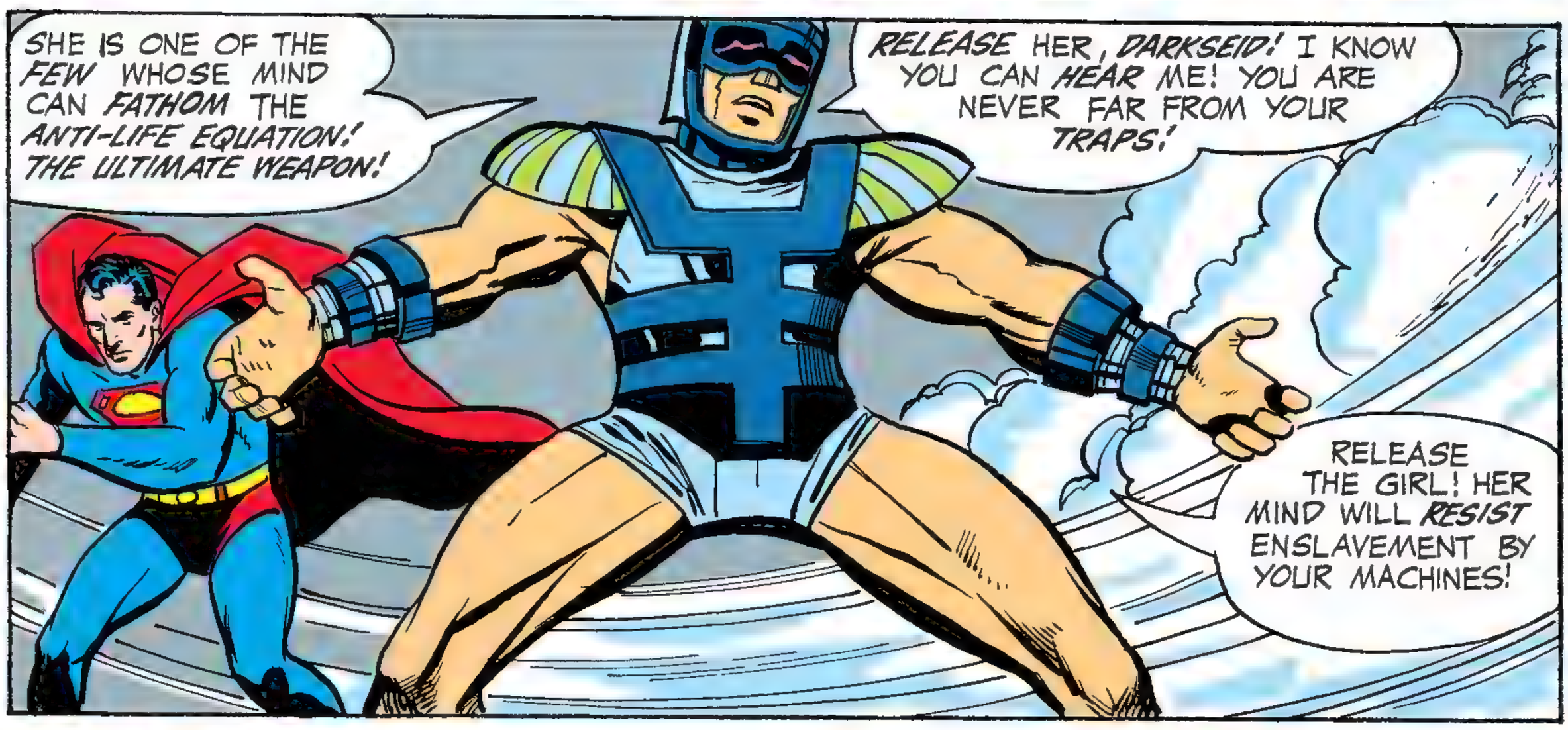

WHERE THE ANSWER TO GRAVITY IS ANTI-GRAVITY-- AND SIMPLY DONE!


POWER KNOWS NO PREJUDICE! THE SAVAGE WIELDS IT AS WELL AS THE CIVILIZED MAN!
NEVER HAVE I SEEN SUCH RESISTANCE!
THIS ONE KNOWS NO DEFEAT!

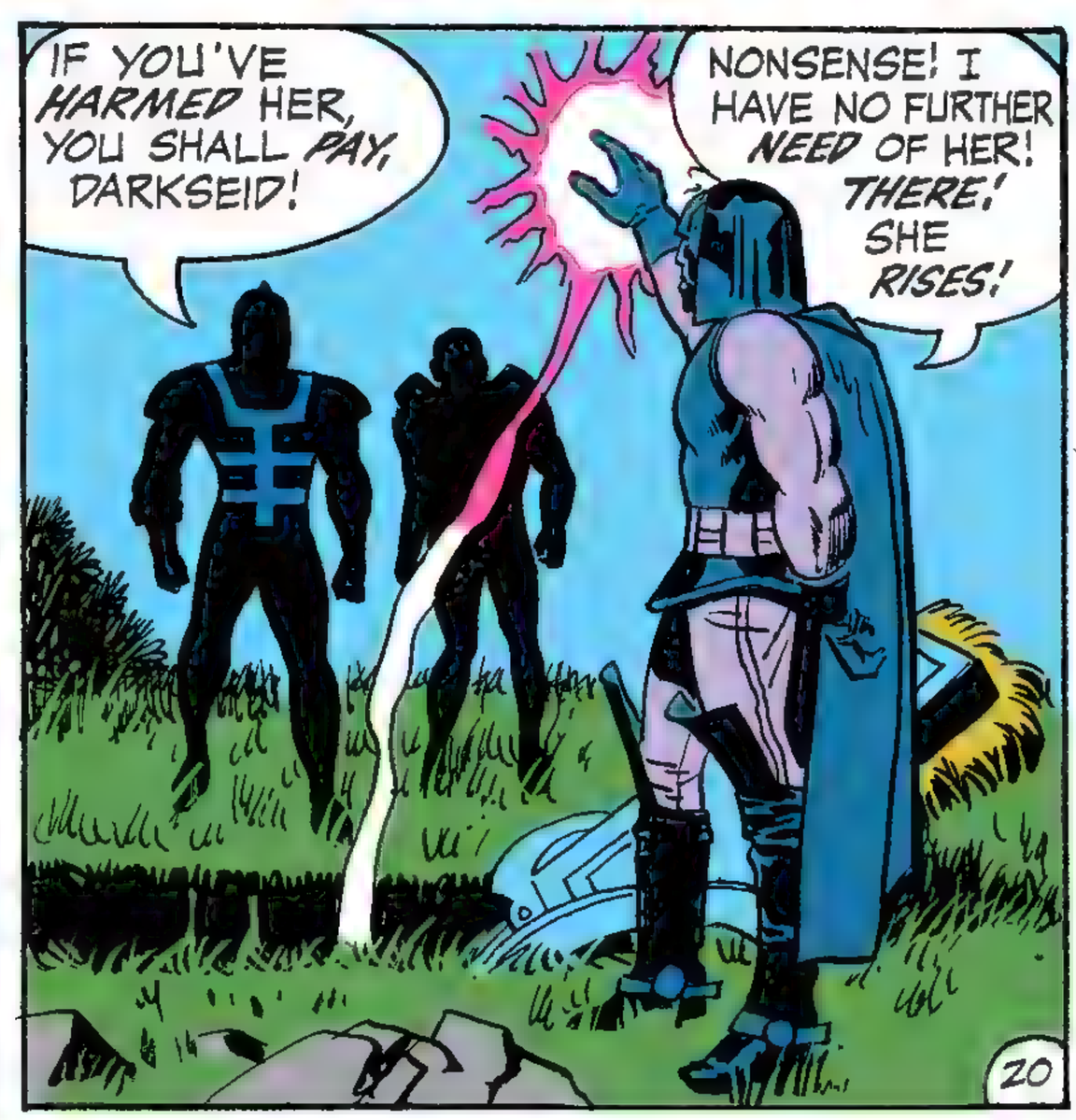

WITH ALMOST EFFORTLESS EASE, THE INFINITY MAN DISPATCHES THE REMAINING GRAVI-GUARD!
YOUR RULES DON'T APPLY TO ME, EVIL ONE!
19

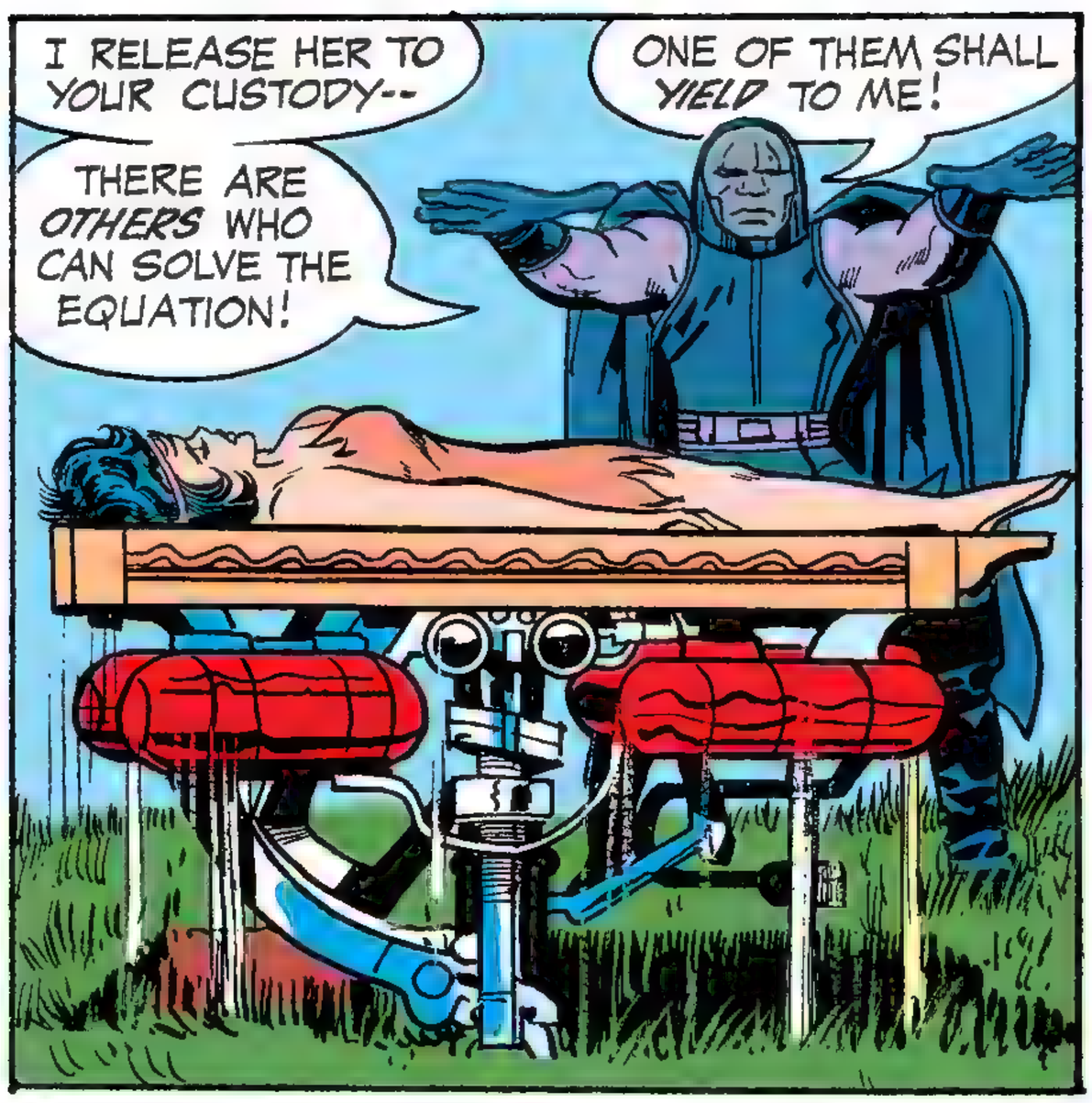

WHAT RULES DO YOU OPERATE FROM, MISTER?
WHERE ARE THE BOYS?
THEY ARE SAFE-- FOR THE PRESENT-- LIKE ALL THINGS NOW LIVING WITH THE GREAT PERIL!

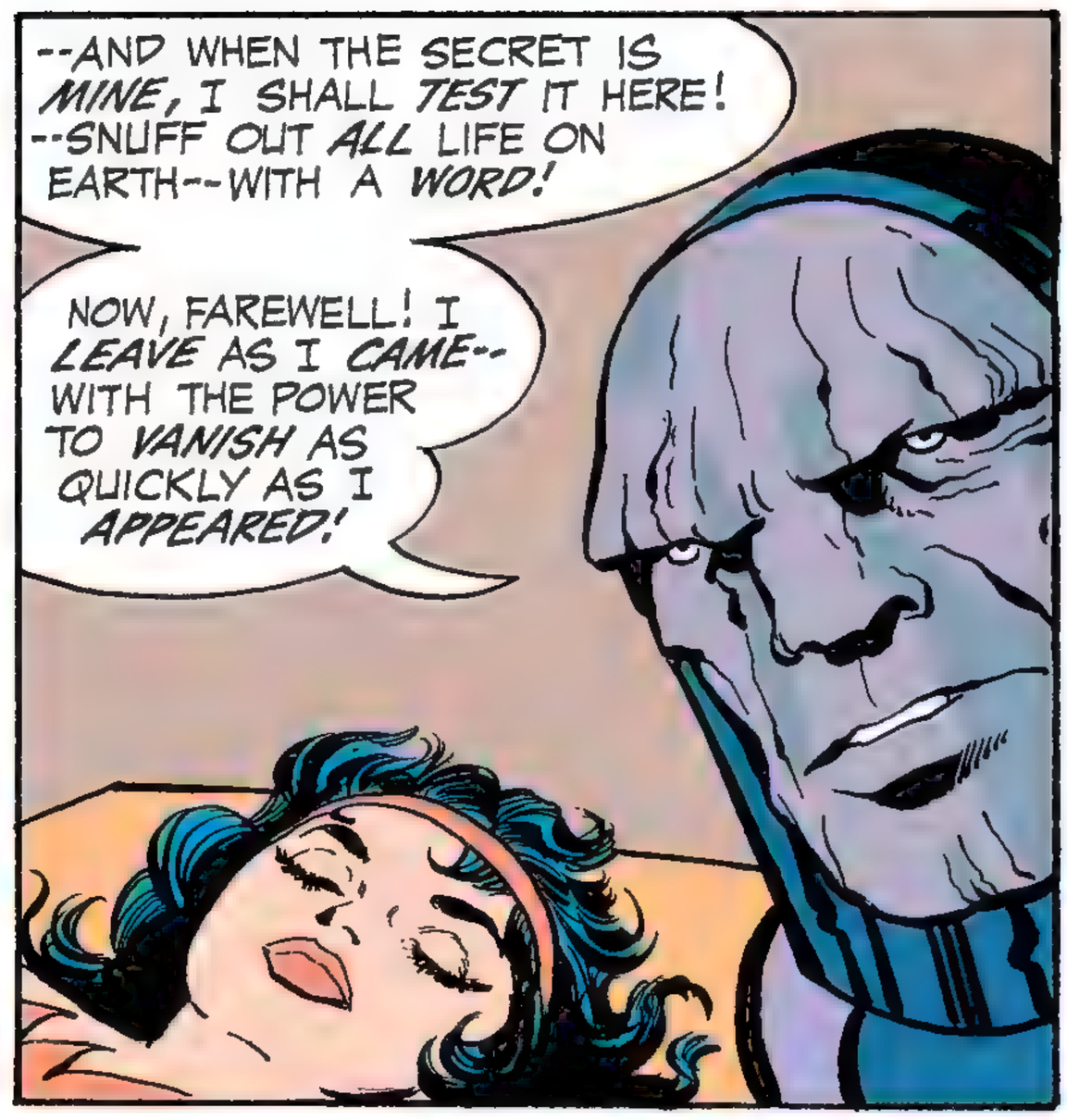
THIS GREAT PERIL COULDN'T BE NAMED-- DARKSEID-- COULD IT!
HOLOCAUST AND DEATH IS WHAT HE SERVES! THAT IS WHY HE ABDUCTED THE GIRL--

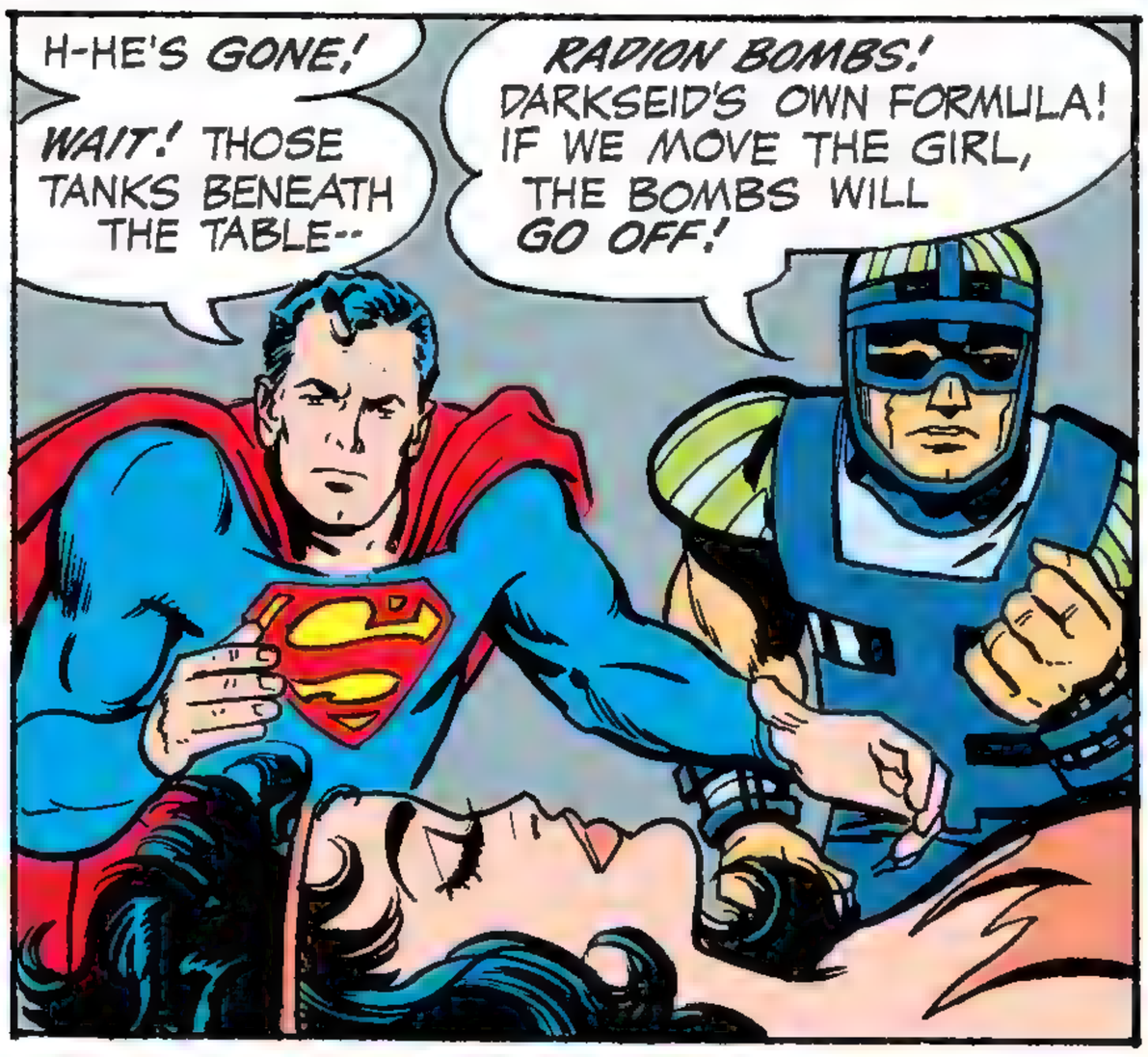

SHE IS ONE OF THE FEW WHOSE MIND CAN FATHOM THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION! THE ULTIMATE WEAPON!
RELEASE HER, DARKSEID! I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME! YOU ARE NEVER FAR FROM YOUR TRAPS!
RELEASE THE GIRL! HER MIND WILL RESIST ENSLAVEMENT BY YOUR MACHINES!

DON'T SHOUT--I AM HERE! YOU ARE RIGHT! THE GIRL'S MIND IS UNIQUE! IT WILL NOT INTERPRET THE EQUATION!
ALL OF MY ATTEMPTS AT FORCE HAVE FAILED!

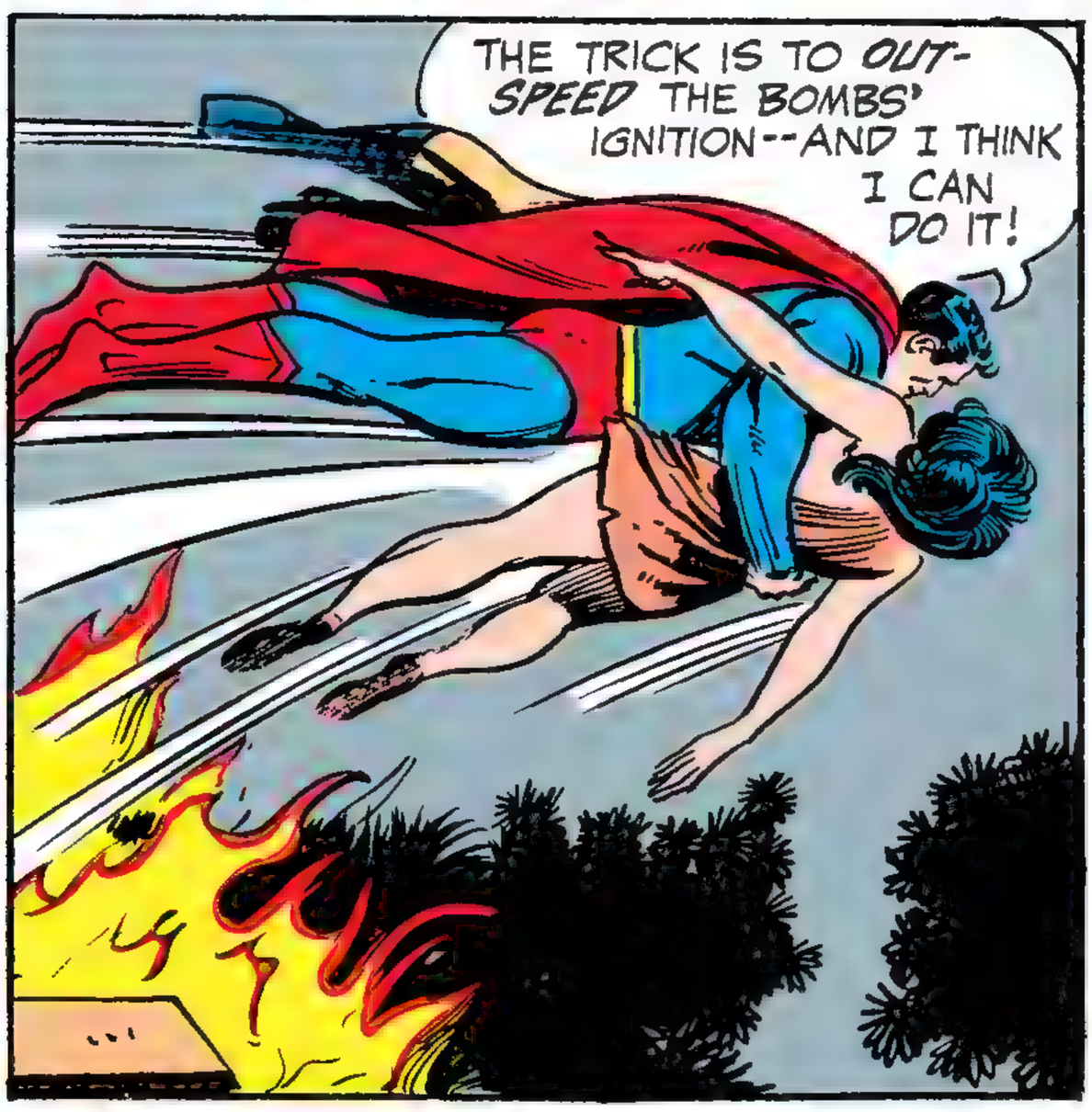

IF YOU'VE HARMED HER, YOU SHALL PAY, DARKSEID!
NONSENSE! I HAVE NO FURTHER NEED OF HER! THERE! SHE RISES!
20

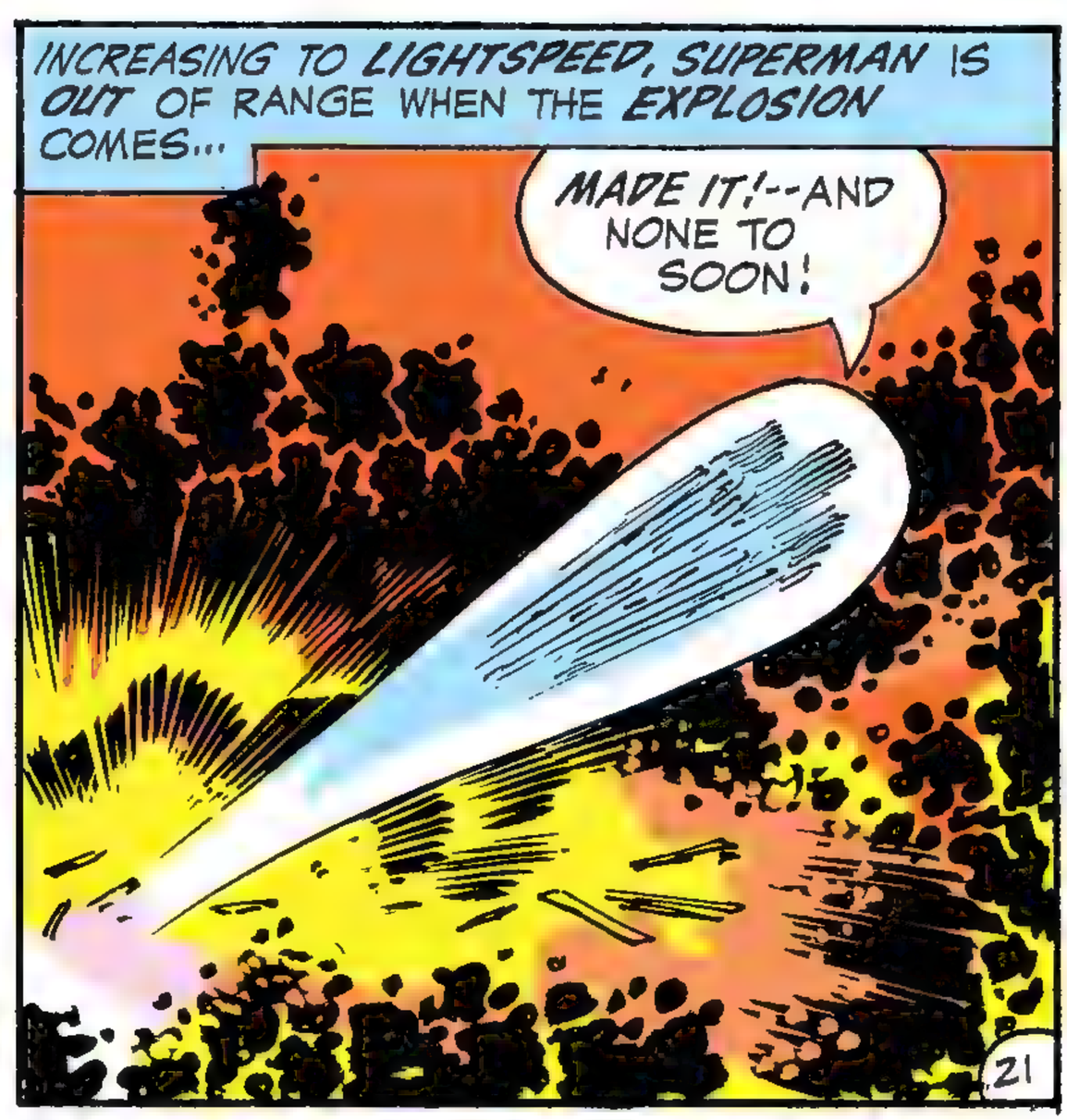

I RELEASE HER TO YOUR CUSTODY--
ONE OF THEM SHALL YIELD TO ME!
THERE ARE OTHERS WHO CAN SOLVE THE EQUATION!


--AND WHEN THE SECRET IS MINE, I SHALL TEST IT HERE! --SNUFF OUT ALL LIFE ON EARTH--WITH A WORD!
NOW, FAREWELL! I LEAVE AS I CAME-- WITH THE POWER TO VANISH AS QUICKLY AS I APPEARED!


H-HE'S GONE!
WAIT! THOSE TANKS BENEATH THE TABLE--
RADION BOMBS! DARKSEID'S OWN FORMULA! IF WE MOVE THE GIRL, THE BOMBS WILL GO OFF!

HE MEANT TO DESTROY US ALL!
THIS CALLS FOR PERFECT TIMING!
WHA--!


THE TRICK IS TO OUT-SPEED THE BOMBS' IGNITION--AND I THINK I CAN DO IT!


INCREASING TO LIGHTSPEED, SUPERMAN IS OUT OF RANGE WHEN THE EXPLOSION COMES...
MADE IT!--AND NONE TOO SOON!
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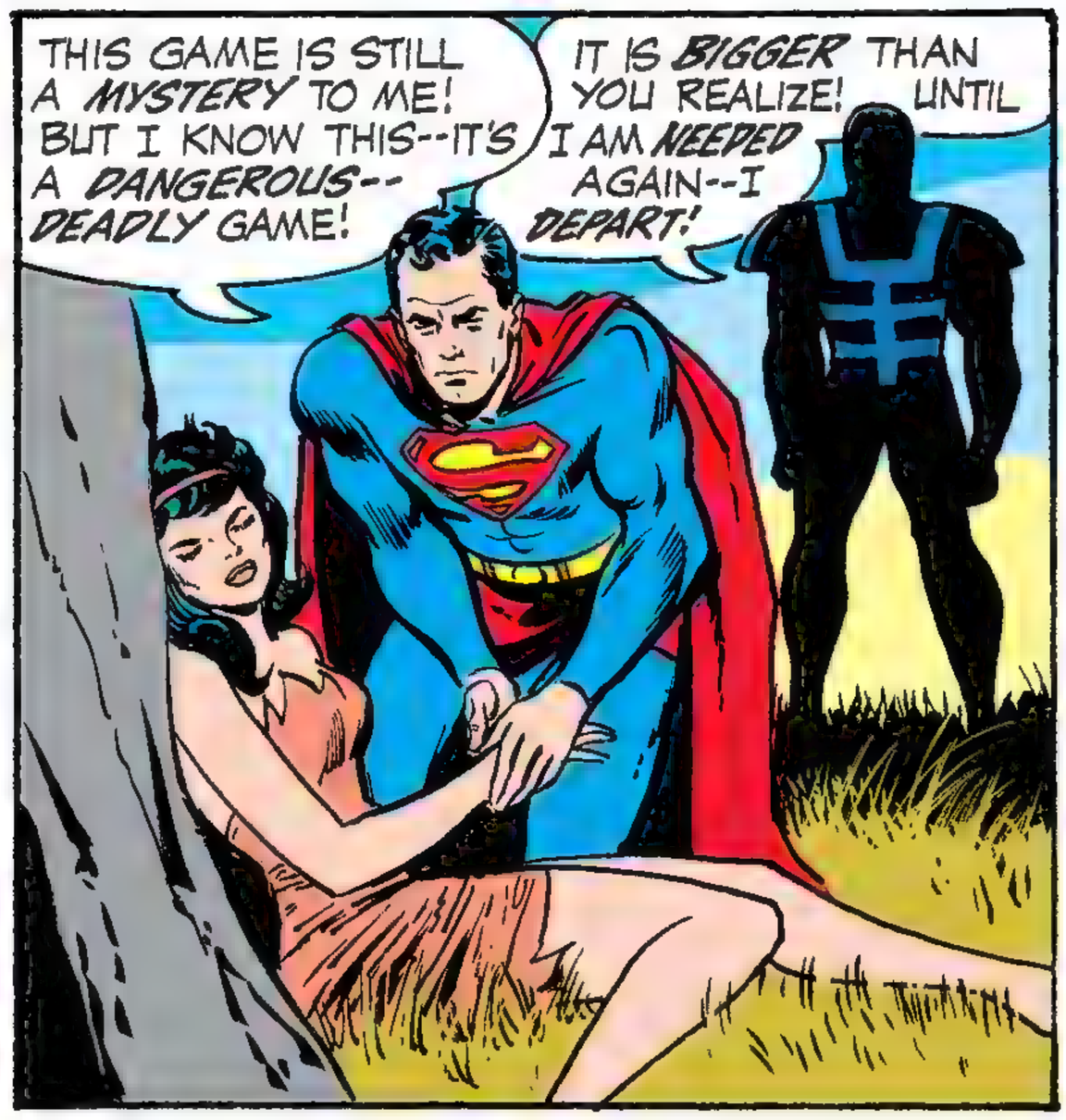
DARKSEID'S UNDERGROUND COMPLEX MUST HAVE BEEN DESTROYED!
YOUR LIGHTNING POWERS HAVE SERVED US WELL!


THIS GAME IS STILL A MYSTERY TO ME! BUT I KNOW THIS--IT'S A DANGEROUS--DEADLY GAME!
IT IS BIGGER THAN YOU REALIZE! UNTIL I AM NEEDED AGAIN--I DEPART!

HEY! HOLD ON! I'VE GOT A MILLION QUESTIONS!
TAARU!

YOU CAN PUT YOUR QUESTIONS TO US, MISTER! YOU'RE A FRIEND!
THE BOYS--THEY'RE BACK--!
WE'VE GOT AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE INFINITY MAN!

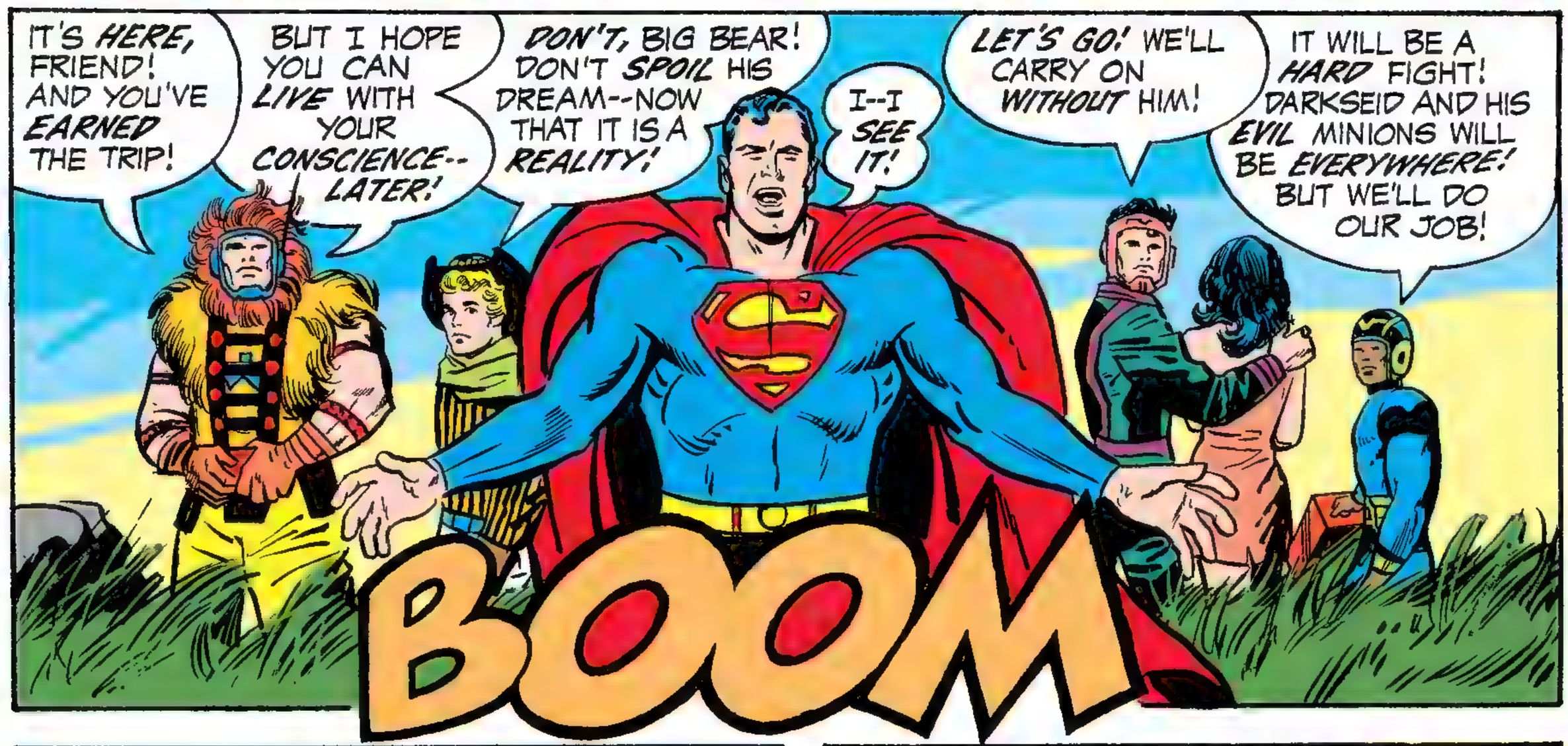
BEAUTIFUL DREAMER IS SAFE, THANKS TO YOU!
ASK ANYTHING!
ALRIGHT, I WILL! HELP ME TO REACH SUPERTOWN!
WHAT CAN WE DO TO SHOW OUR GRATITUDE?

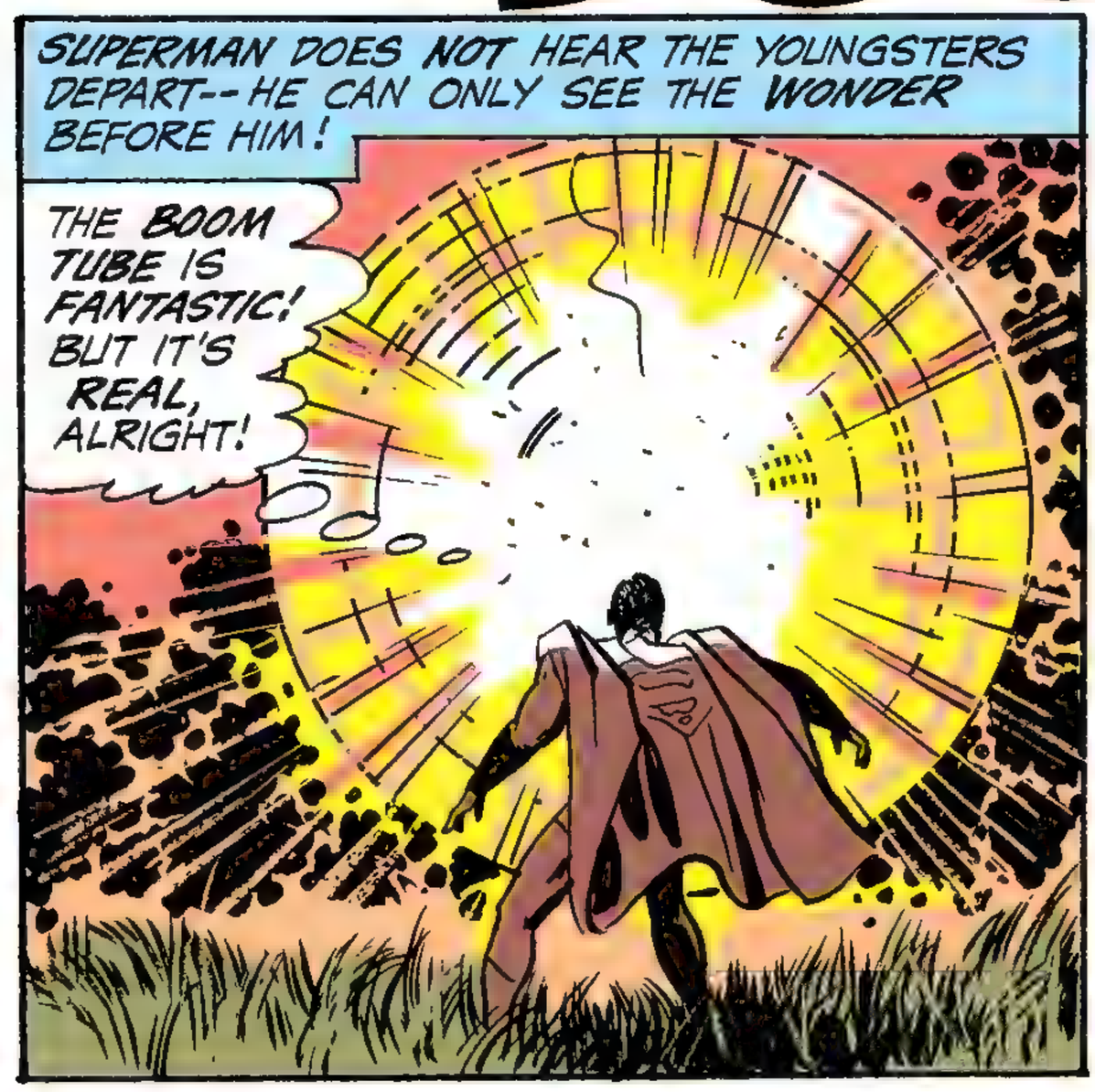
THAT'S EASY! BUT WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO THERE NOW?
I-I NEED TO KNOW MORE! I'VE GOT TO SEE SUPERTOWN--
DARKSEID IS HERE! HE MUST BE STOPPED!
22

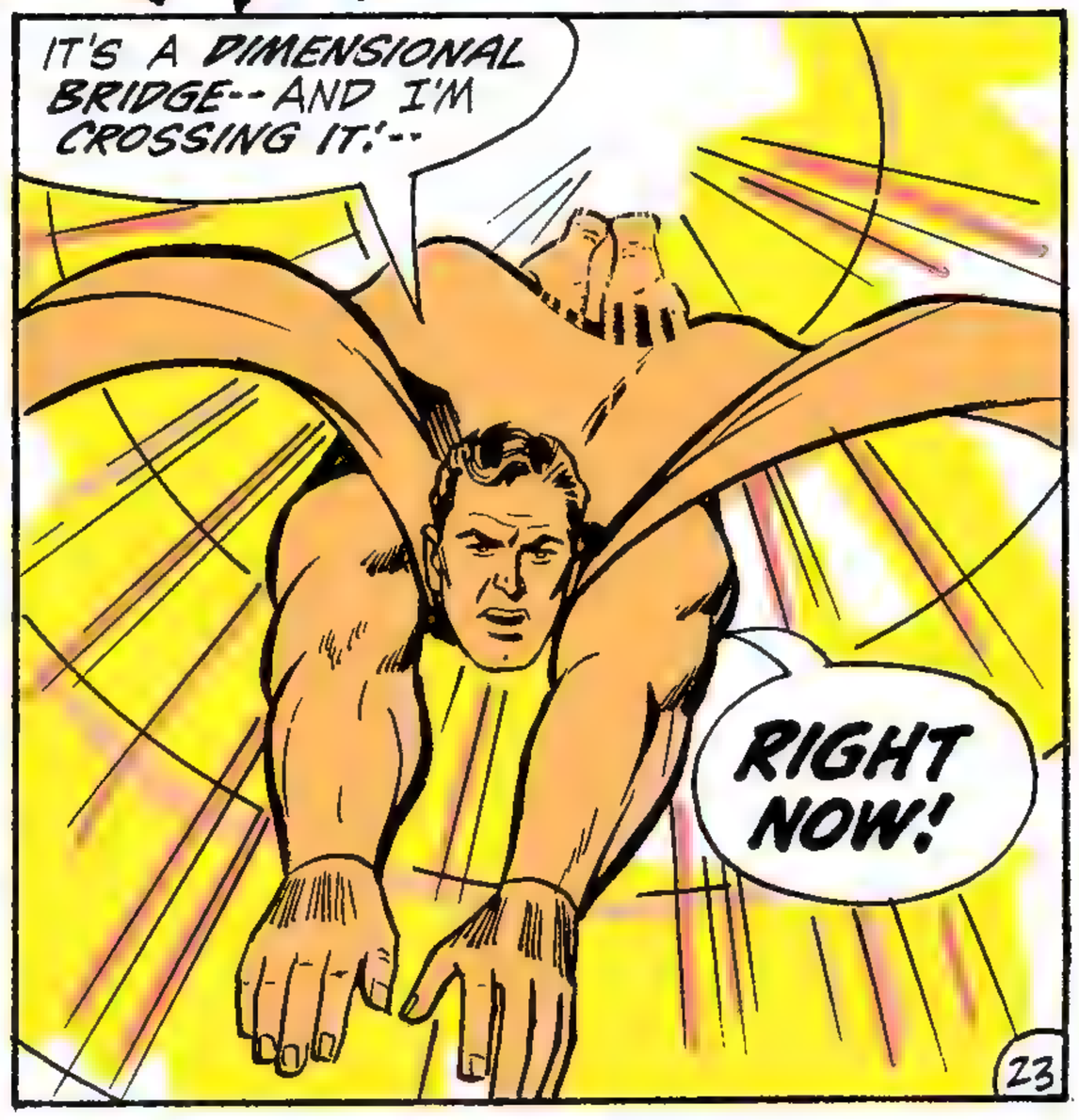
I TELL YOU THE ACTION IS HERE! --AND YOU, AND ALL OF EARTH ARE INVOLVED!
IF THERE IS DANGER--I'LL BE BACK!
NOW, WILL YOU DO AS I ASK?

BUT IF DARKSEID CONQUERS--THERE WILL BE NOTHING--NOT EVEN SUPERTOWN!
HE WANTS TO GO, BIG BEAR. AND THAT'S ALL IT TAKES--A DEEP DESIRE!

--AND THE BOOM TUBE!
YES--I HEAR SOMETHING--
LISTEN--IT'S COMING THROUGH NOW!


IT'S HERE, FRIEND! AND YOU'VE EARNED THE TRIP!
BUT I HOPE YOU CAN LIVE WITH YOUR CONSCIENCE--LATER!
DON'T, BIG BEAR! DON'T SPOIL HIS DREAM--NOW THAT IT IS A REALITY!
I--I SEE IT!
LET'S GO! WE'LL CARRY ON WITHOUT HIM!
IT WILL BE A HARD FIGHT! DARKSEID AND HIS EVIL MINIONS WILL BE EVERYWHERE! BUT WE'LL DO OUR JOB!
BOOM

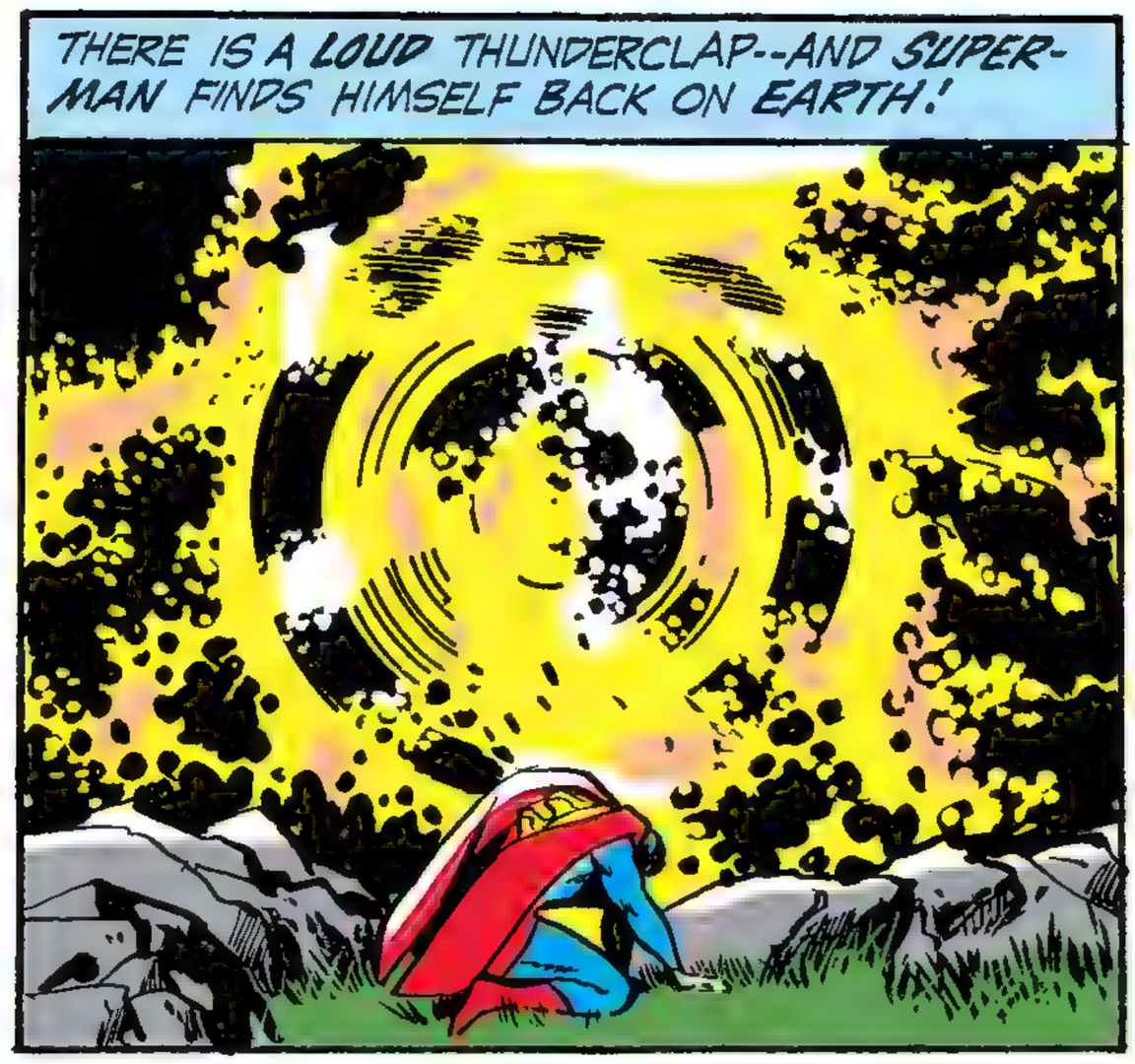

SUPERMAN DOES NOT HEAR THE YOUNGSTERS DEPART--HE CAN ONLY SEE THE WONDER BEFORE HIM!
THE BOOM TUBE IS FANTASTIC! BUT IT'S REAL, ALRIGHT!

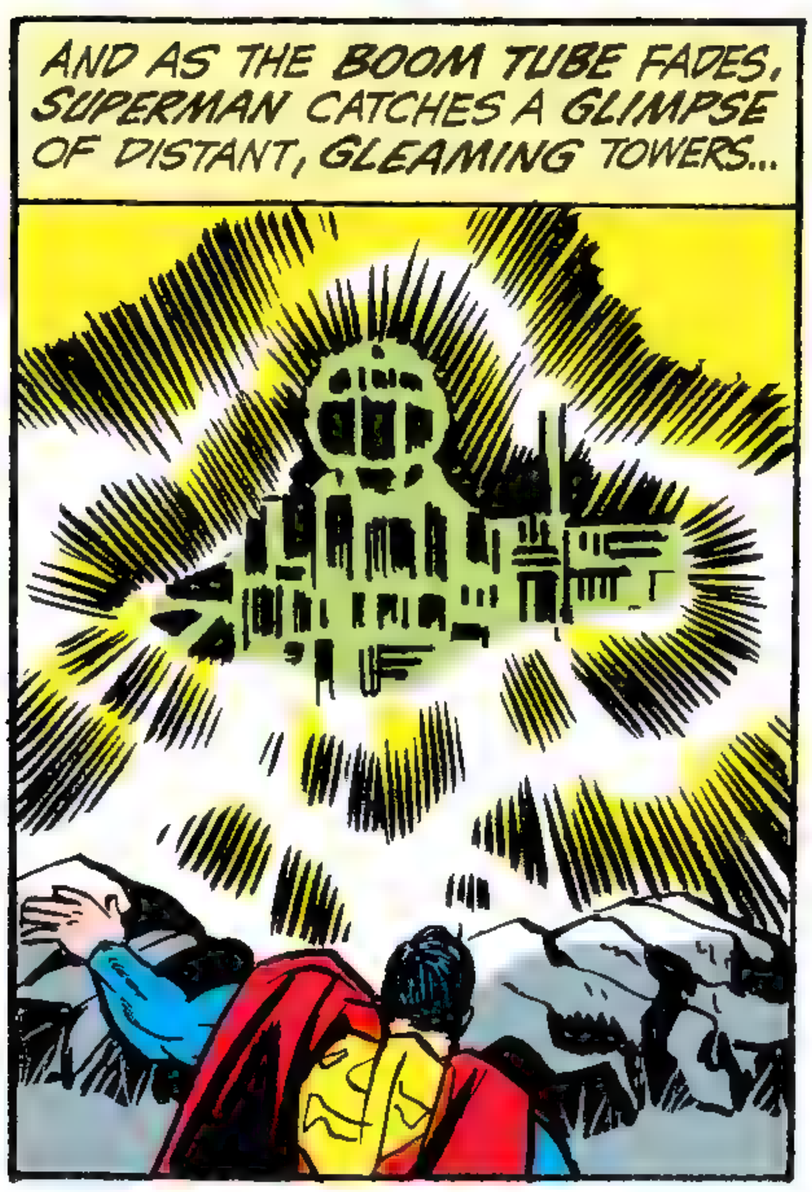

IT'S A DIMENSIONAL BRIDGE--AND I'M CROSSING IT!--
RIGHT NOW!
23

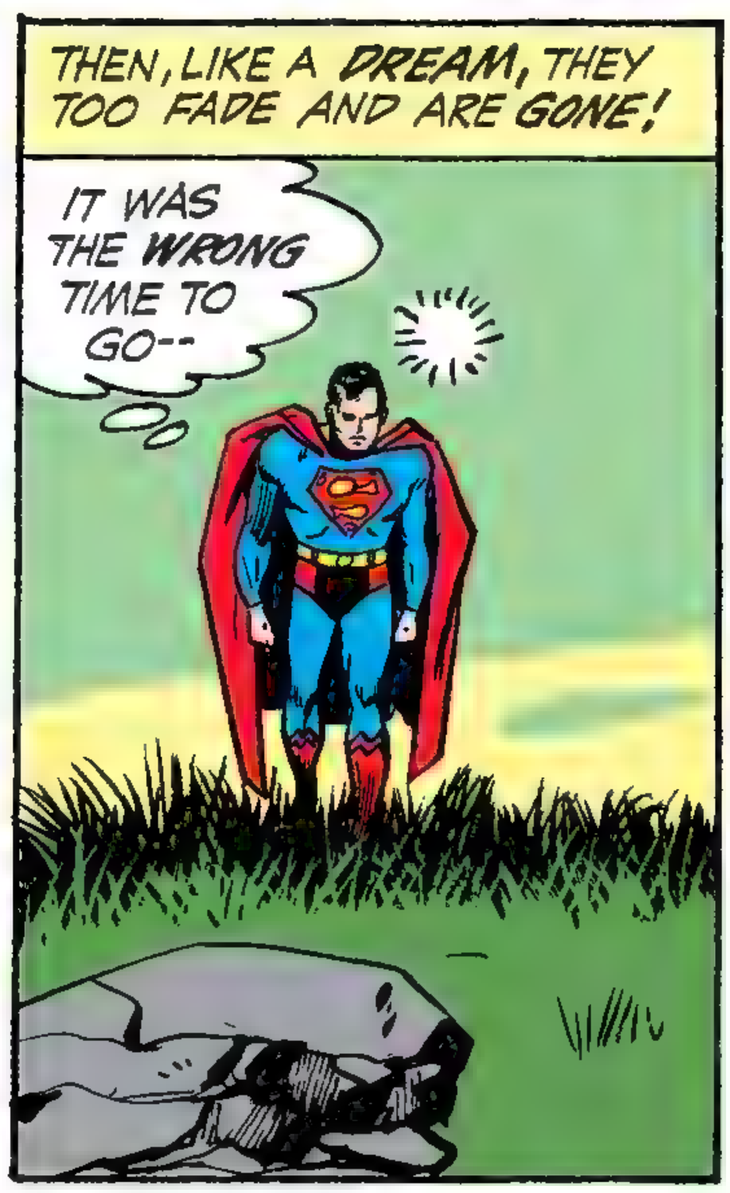
BUT DEEP WITHIN, SUPERMAN FEELS THE STING OF APPREHENSION...
DOES THE ANSWER REALLY LIE AHEAD OF ME? DARKSEID AND HIS HIDDEN TERRORS--THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION-- THE DANGER TO MANKIND--

AM I GOING THE WRONG WAY? IS EARTH THE BATTLEGROUND FOR SOME STRANGE SUPER-WAR?
IT COULD BE AS REAL AS THE BOOM TUBE!--AND I MAY BE DESERTING MANKIND WHEN IT NEEDS ME MOST!

I CAN'T GO ON! I CAN'T--
BOOOM


THERE IS A LOUD THUNDERCLAP--AND SUPERMAN FINDS HIMSELF BACK ON EARTH!


AND AS THE BOOM TUBE FADES, SUPERMAN CATCHES A GLIMPSE OF DISTANT, GLEAMING TOWERS...


THEN, LIKE A DREAM, THEY TOO FADE AND ARE GONE!
IT WAS THE WRONG TIME TO GO--

PERHAPS, SOMEDAY, I'LL TRY AGAIN... BUT THE TIME IS NOT NOW--NOT YET--
IN THE NEXT ISSUE... THE MYSTERY SURROUNDING The FOREVER PEOPLE BEGINS TO UNFOLD in:
SUPER-WAR!

STOP MANTIS! IS THE CRY OF A GREAT CITY--AT THE MERCY OF AN EVIL POWER VAMPIRE!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MAY
NO. 2
READ
DC THE FOREVER PEOPLE
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
GO BACK TO YOUR FAR DOMAIN, INFINITY MAN! MANTIS IS YOUR MASTER, TOO!
ADDING TO THE ACTION--OUR NEW AGERS!
MARK MOONRIDER
BIG BEAR
VYKIN THE BLACK
SERIFAN
BEAUTIFUL DREAMER

HERE THEY ARE AGAIN!-- THE YOUNG STRANGERS FROM THAT PLACE BEYOND THE BLUE THEY CALL-- SUPERTOWN! ALTHOUGH THEIR BACKGROUND IS SHROUDED IN MYSTERY, THEY ARE ALREADY EMBATTLED ON EARTH AGAINST EMERGING FORCES OF AWESOME AND TERRIFYING NATURE! AND ARE WE IN THIS, TOO? WE MAY BE FRIEND OR FOE OF THE
FOREVER PEOPLE!
--BYSTANDERS OR PARTICIPANTS IN AN OMINOUS AND PERHAPS FINAL
SUPER WAR!
DIG THIS PLACE! IT'S GOT THE INGREDIENTS OF THE CAKE--BUT IT NEEDS MORE BAKING!
AND LESS NOISE!
X-115
I LIKE THIS CITY! IT'S EXCITING!
YES--BUT IT ISN'T SUPER-TOWN!
WRITTEN, DRAWN AND EDITED BY
Jack Kirby
INKED BY
COLLETTA
1

BEEE-EE-EEPP-BEEP-BEEP

THE NAME IS *BIG BEAR*, BROTHER! AND I ASK YOUR PATIENCE!

C'MON, *SMOKEY THE BEAR!* GET THAT CUSTOM-MADE *CONCRETE MIXER* OUTTA HERE!

HOLD IT DOWN, FOLKS-- WE'LL HAVE THIS THING UNDER *CONTROL* IN A MINUTE!

WE ARE *NEW* IN YOUR CITY! WE WISH TO ESTABLISH *PROPER* COORDINATES-TO--

JOKE'S *OVER*, KIDS! NOW FIND A PARKING LOT FOR *WHATEVER* THAT THING IS!

MOTORIZED HIPPIES! HOW ABOUT THAT?

DOO YA DOOTY, OFFICERS! WHY DON'T 'CHA BUST DOSE HIPPIES BEFORE DEY TIE UP DA WHOLE TOWN!

IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE *SUBWAY* TO CROSS THE STREET!

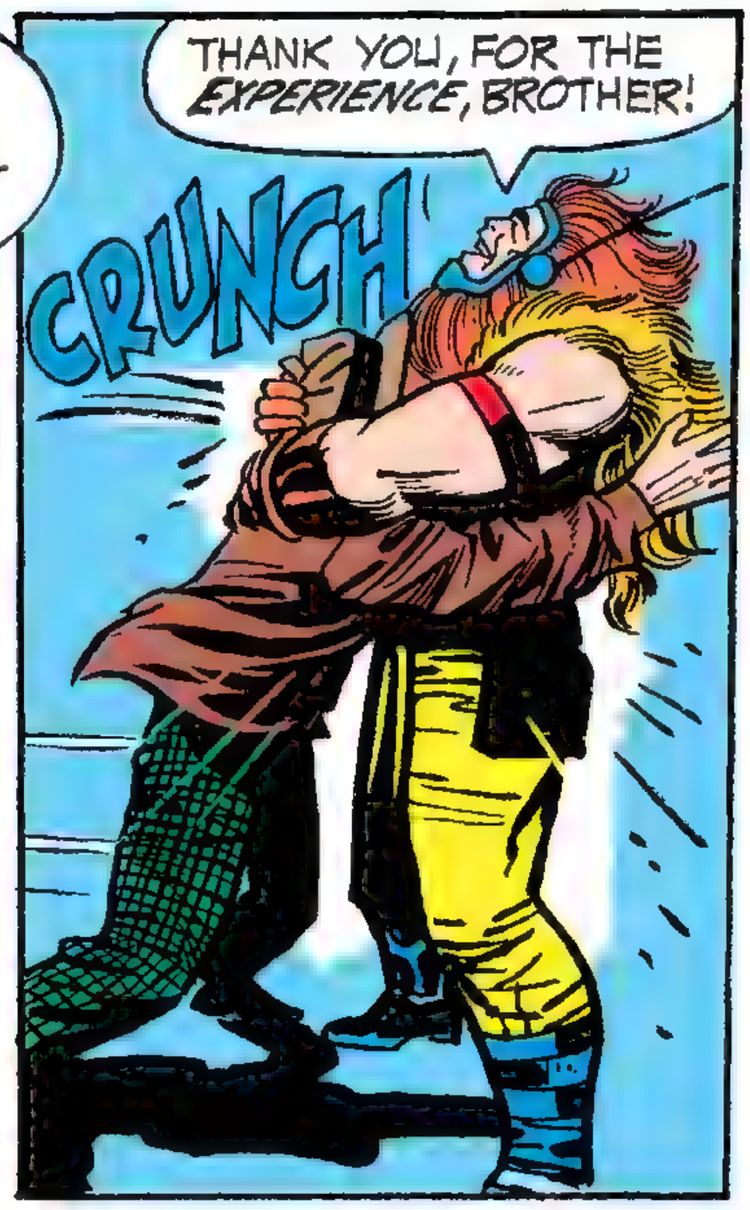
WHY DON'T THEY *AIRLIFT* THE HIPPIES OUT BY HELICOPTER?

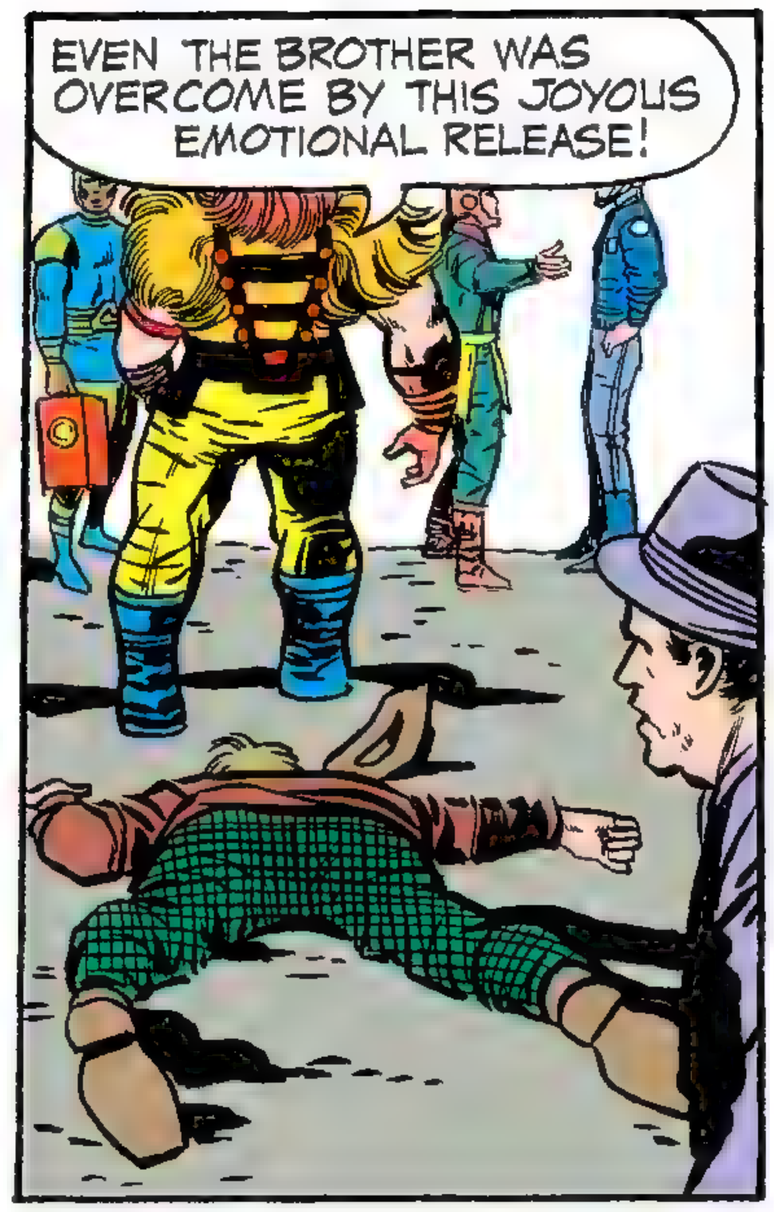
YEAH! GET DOSE HIPPIES *UP* IN DE AIR, AN' MEBBE DEY'LL CANCEL OUT DA *SMOG!*

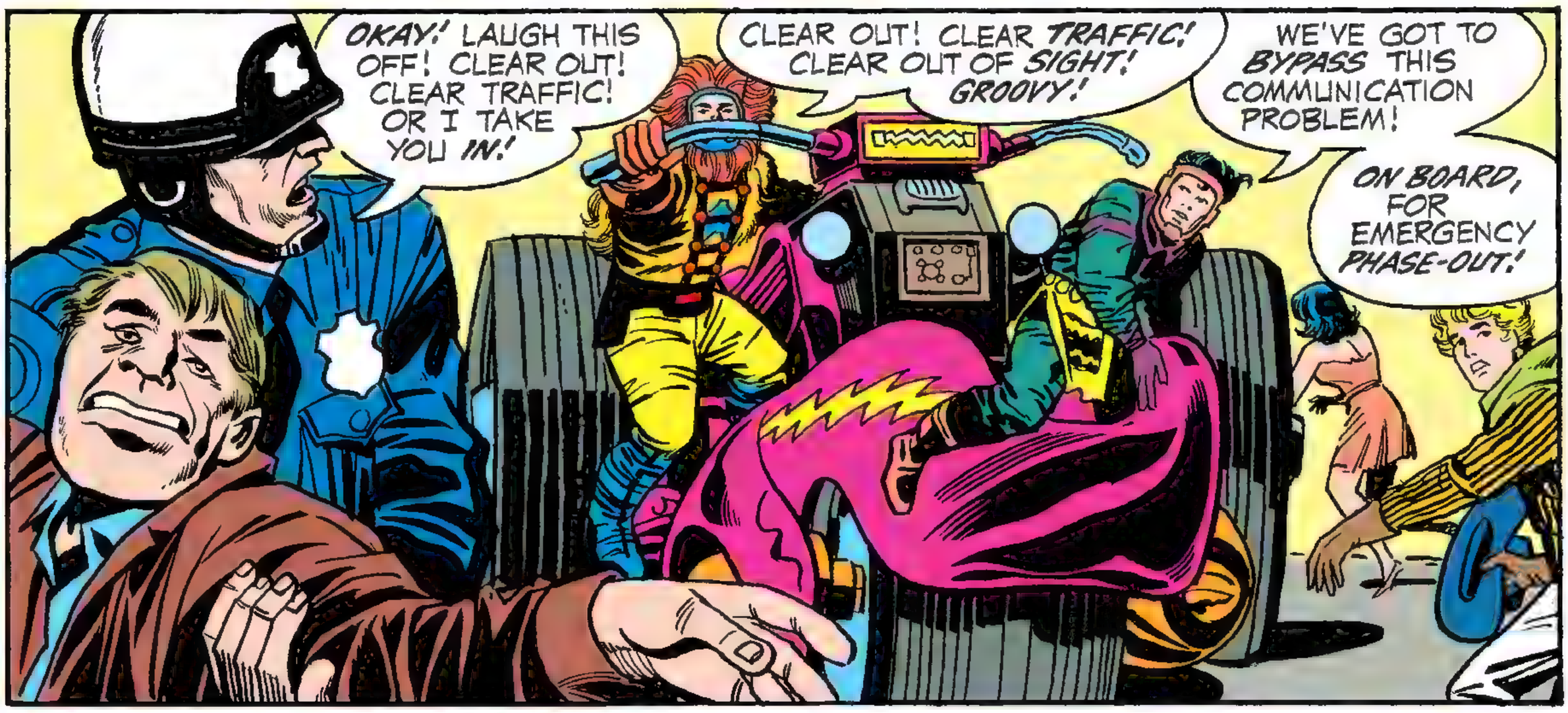
THE DIALECT IS *PRIMITIVE*, BROTHER! BUT THE HUMOR CRIES OUT FOR A *STRAIGHT MAN!*

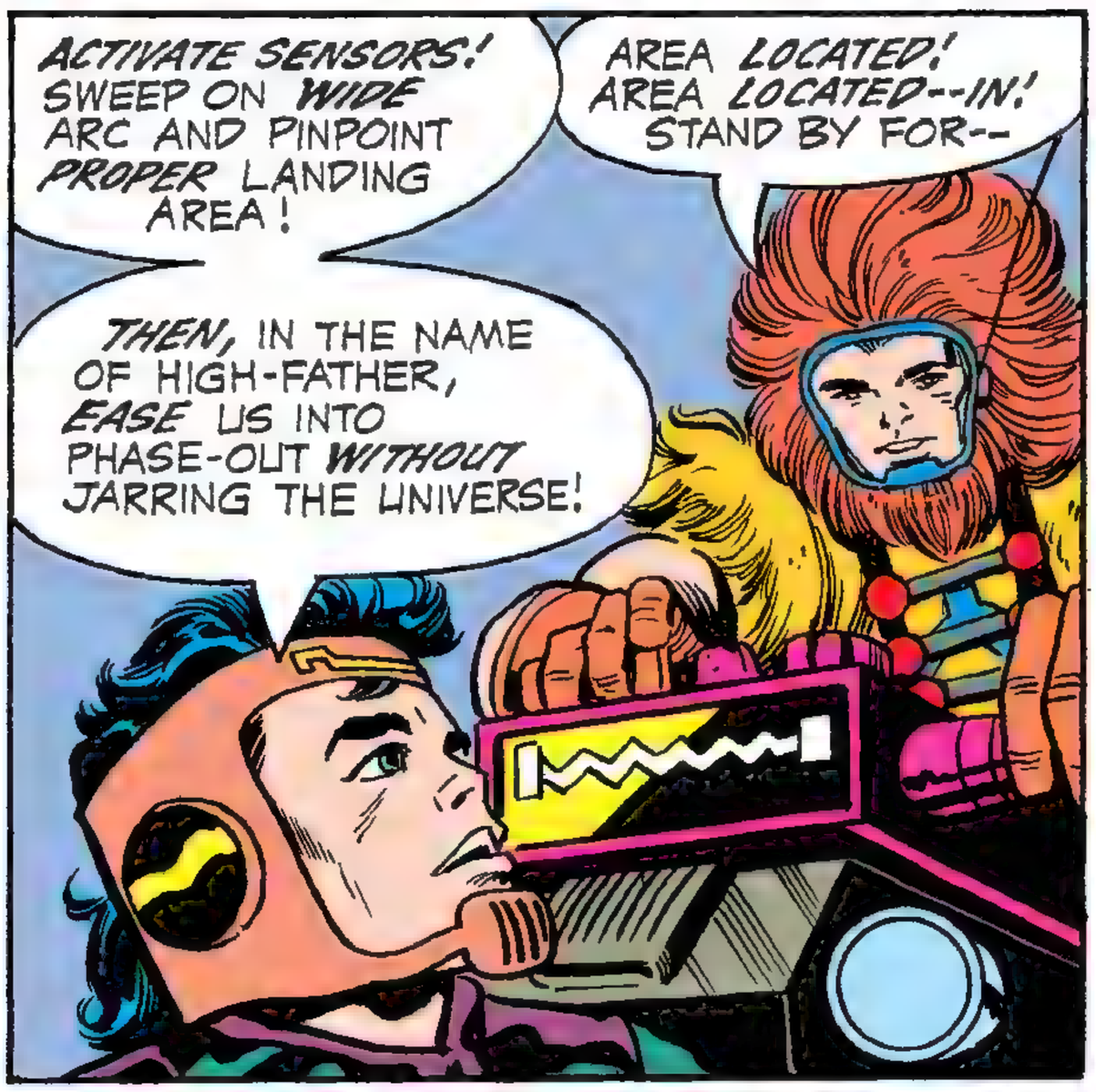
TELL ME, MISTER CORN! *WHAT'S* A HIPPIE?

HA, HA--DAT'S EASY!
HAHAHAHA! IT'S LIKE DIRECT INVOLVEMENT WITH ANCIENT VAUDEVILLE!
ALL YA GOTTA DO IS SHOW HIM A BATHTUB--AN' IF HE RUNS--HE'S A HIPPIE!

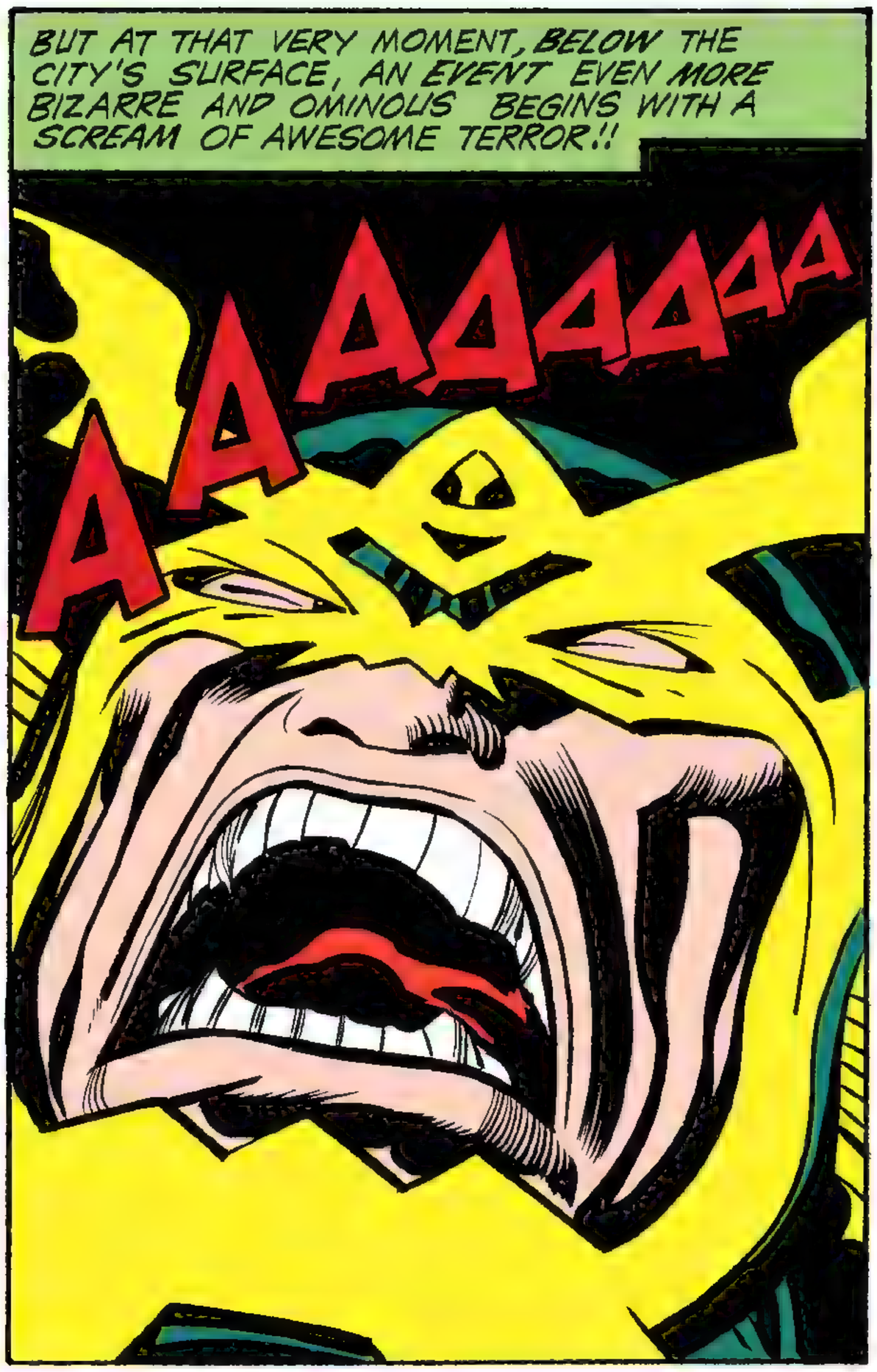

THANK YOU, FOR THE EXPERIENCE, BROTHER!
CRUNCH!


EVEN THE BROTHER WAS OVERCOME BY THIS JOYOUS EMOTIONAL RELEASE!

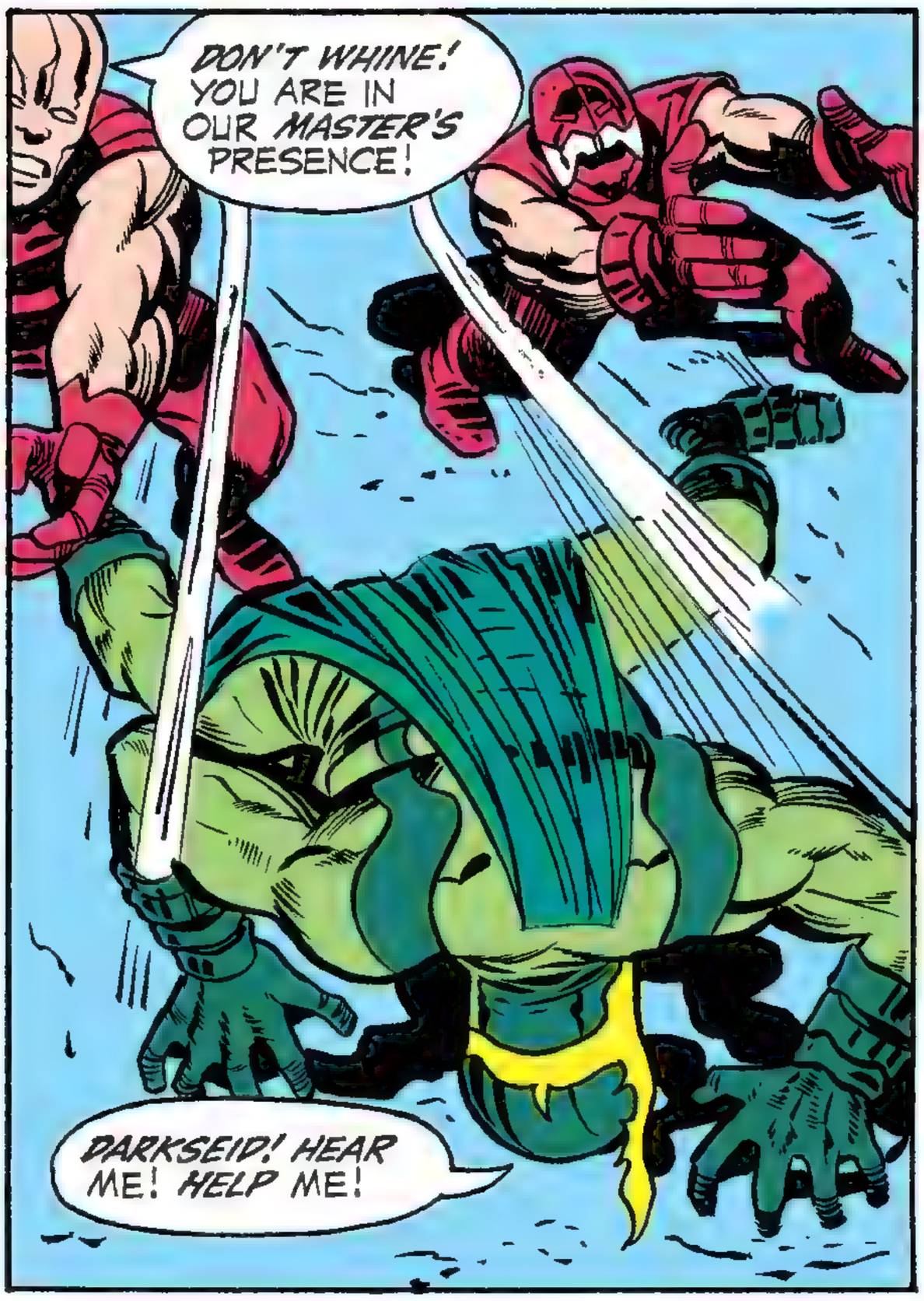

OKAY! LAUGH THIS OFF! CLEAR OUT! CLEAR TRAFFIC! OR I TAKE YOU IN!
CLEAR OUT! CLEAR TRAFFIC! CLEAR OUT OF SIGHT! GROOVY!
WE'VE GOT TO BYPASS THIS COMMUNICATION PROBLEM!
ON BOARD, FOR EMERGENCY PHASE-OUT!

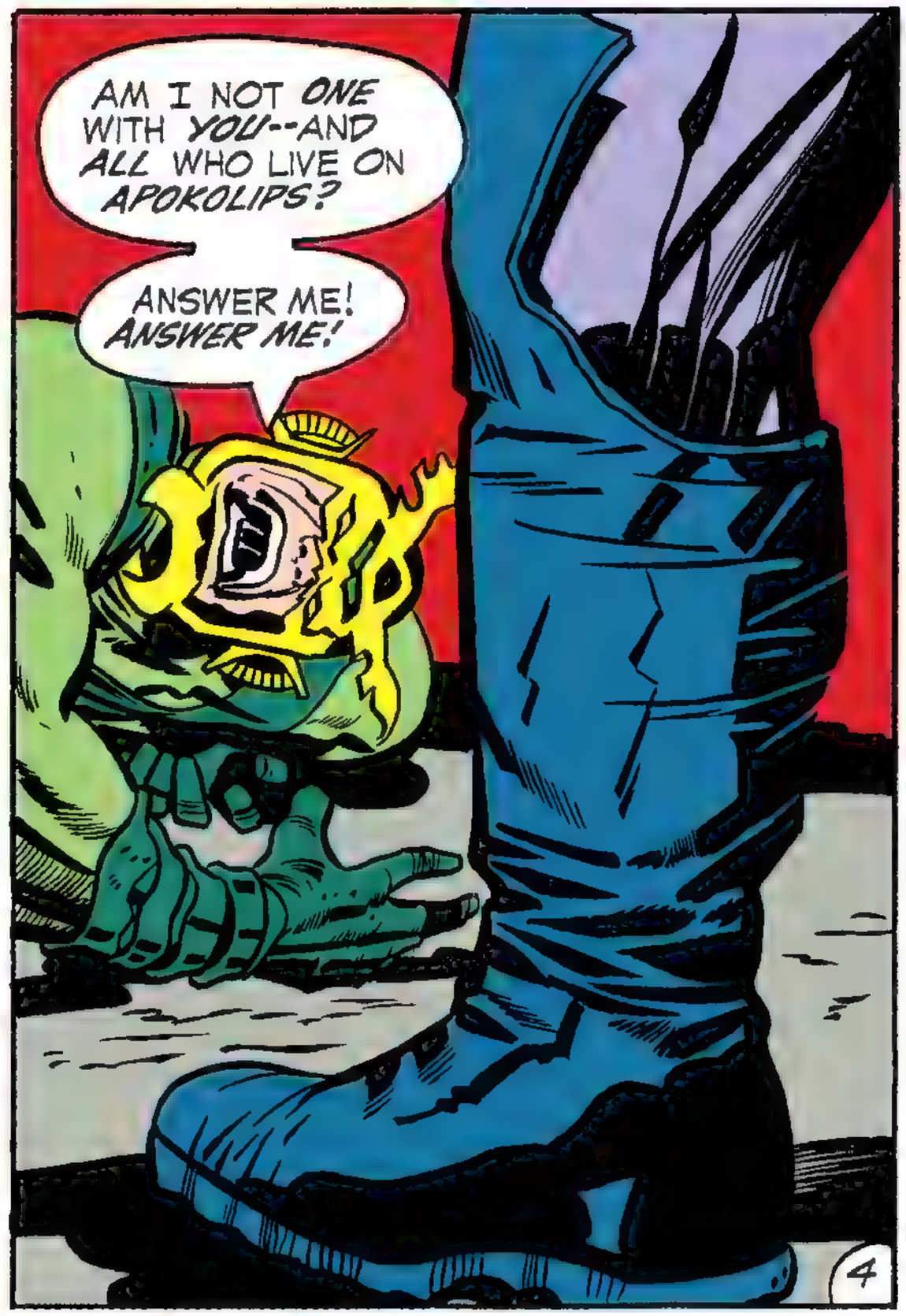

ACTIVATE SENSORS! SWEEP ON WIDE ARC AND PINPOINT PROPER LANDING AREA!
AREA LOCATED! AREA LOCATED--IN! STAND BY FOR--
THEN, IN THE NAME OF HIGH-FATHER, EASE US INTO PHASE-OUT WITHOUT JARRING THE UNIVERSE!

PHASE OUT!
FZOM
GOOD LORD! TH-THEY JUST-- VANISHED!
3


BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT, BELOW THE CITY'S SURFACE, AN EVENT EVEN MORE BIZARRE AND OMINOUS BEGINS WITH A SCREAM OF AWESOME TERROR!!
AAAAAAA

...
OUT OF YOUR POWER-POD, MANTIS!
DID YOU THINK TO HIDE FROM DARKSEID?
DON'T ROUSE ME! IT IS NOT TIME! MY BODY WILL LOSE ITS PRECIOUS GAIN OF VOLTAGE!

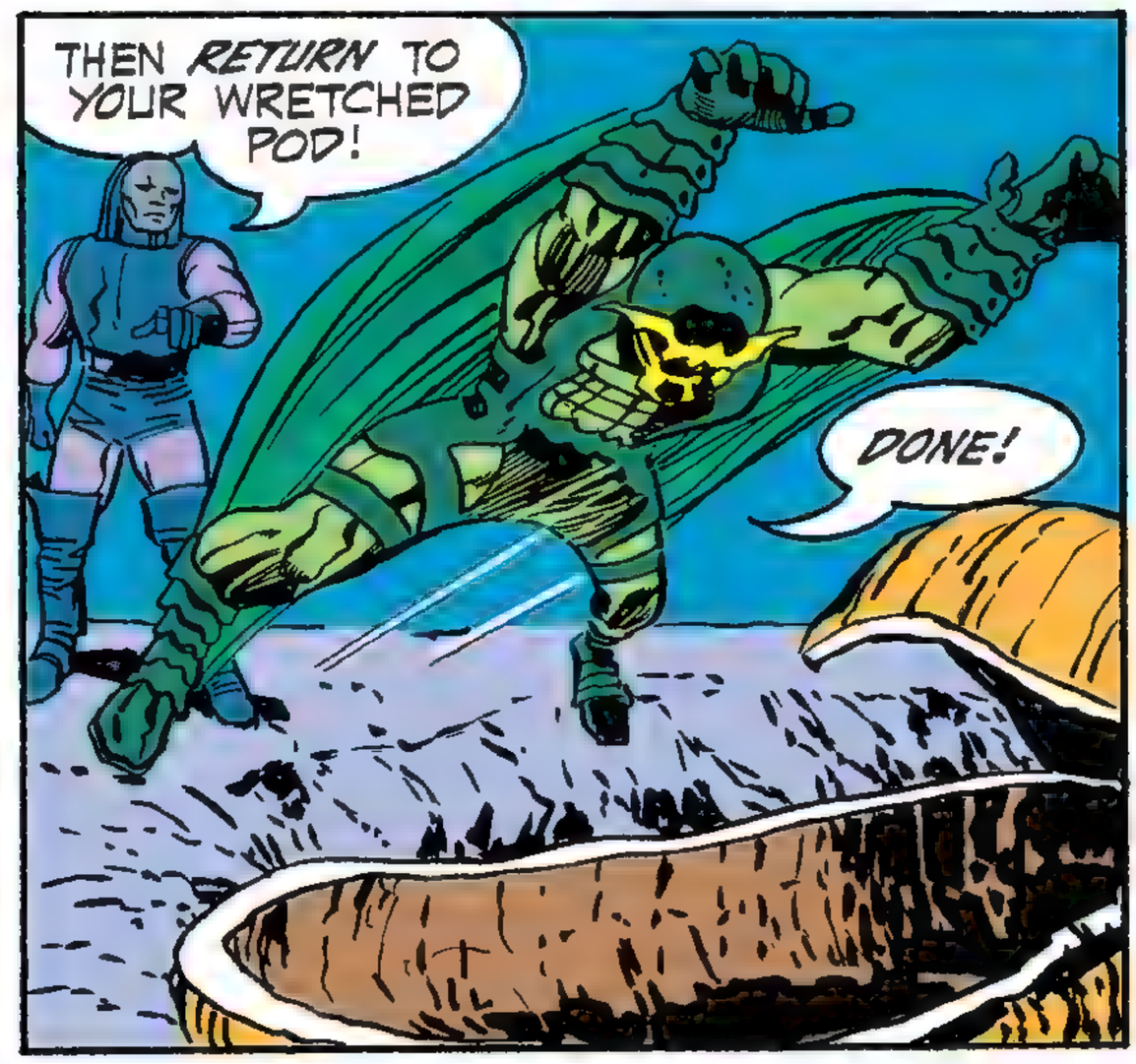

DON'T WHINE! YOU ARE IN OUR MASTER'S PRESENCE!
DARKSEID! HEAR ME! HELP ME!


AM I NOT ONE WITH YOU--AND ALL WHO LIVE ON APOKOLIPS?
ANSWER ME! ANSWER ME!
4

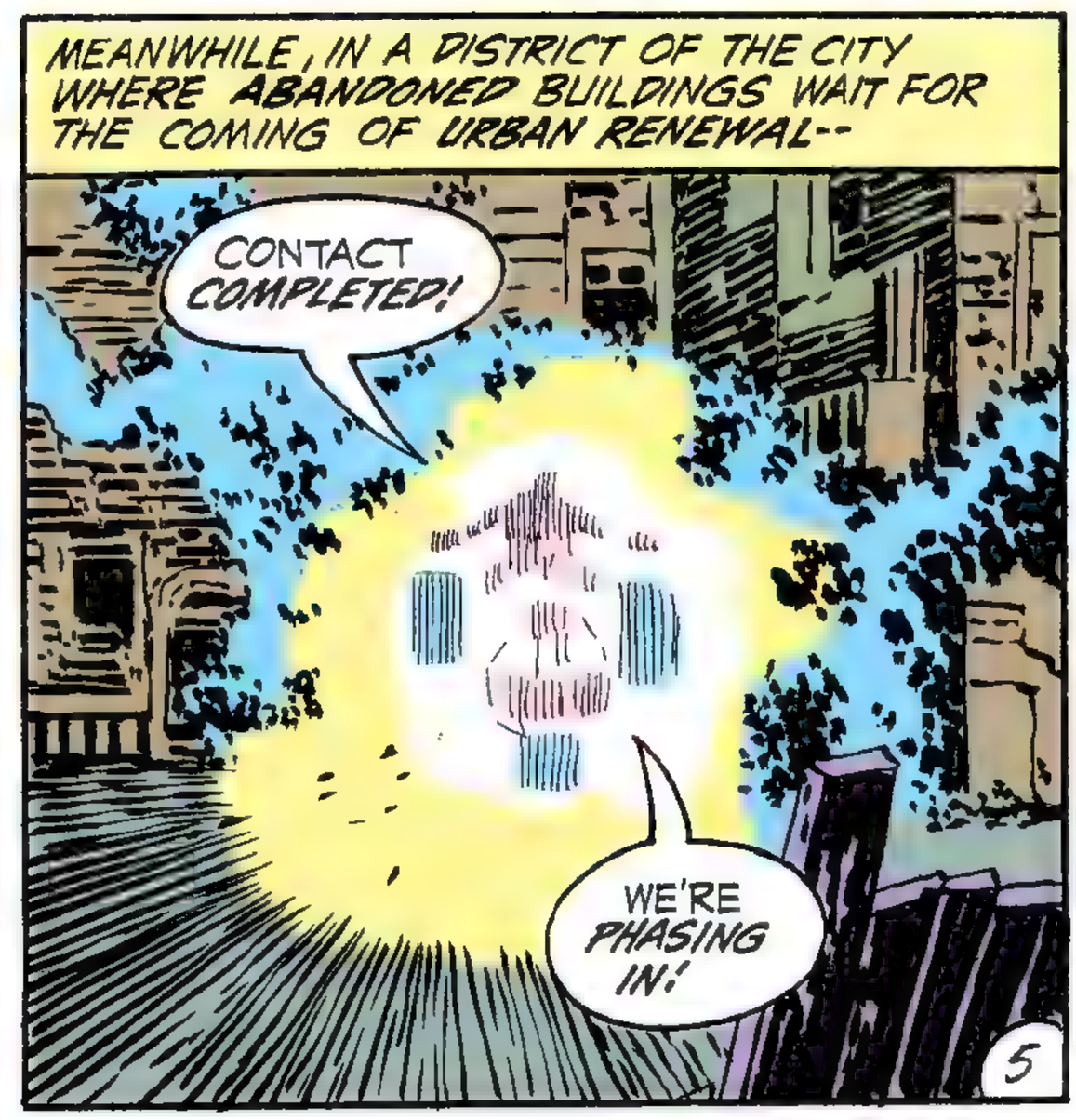
YOU ARE A CREATURE OF GREAT POWER, MANTIS! BUT YOUR BIOLOGY EVER BETRAYS YOU!
THAT IS WHY I RULE ON APOKOLIPS! DARKSEID NEVER RESTS! HIS SHADOW FALLS EVERY-WHERE!

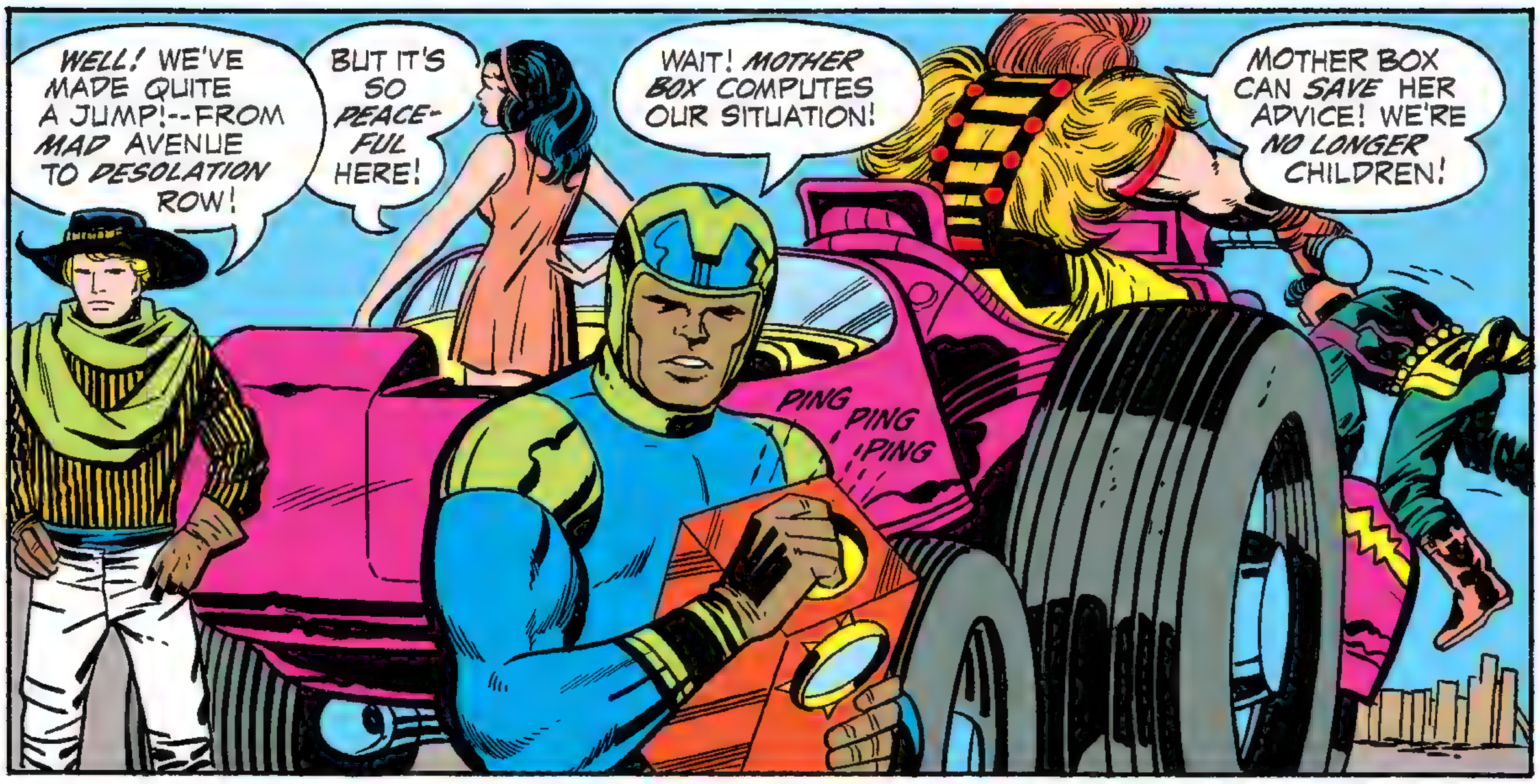
NOW THAT MY ELITE AND I BRING APOKOLIPS TO EARTH-- DID YOU NOT THINK WE WOULD TRACK YOU HERE?
EARTH IS MINE! MINE! I CAME HERE FIRST! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT--

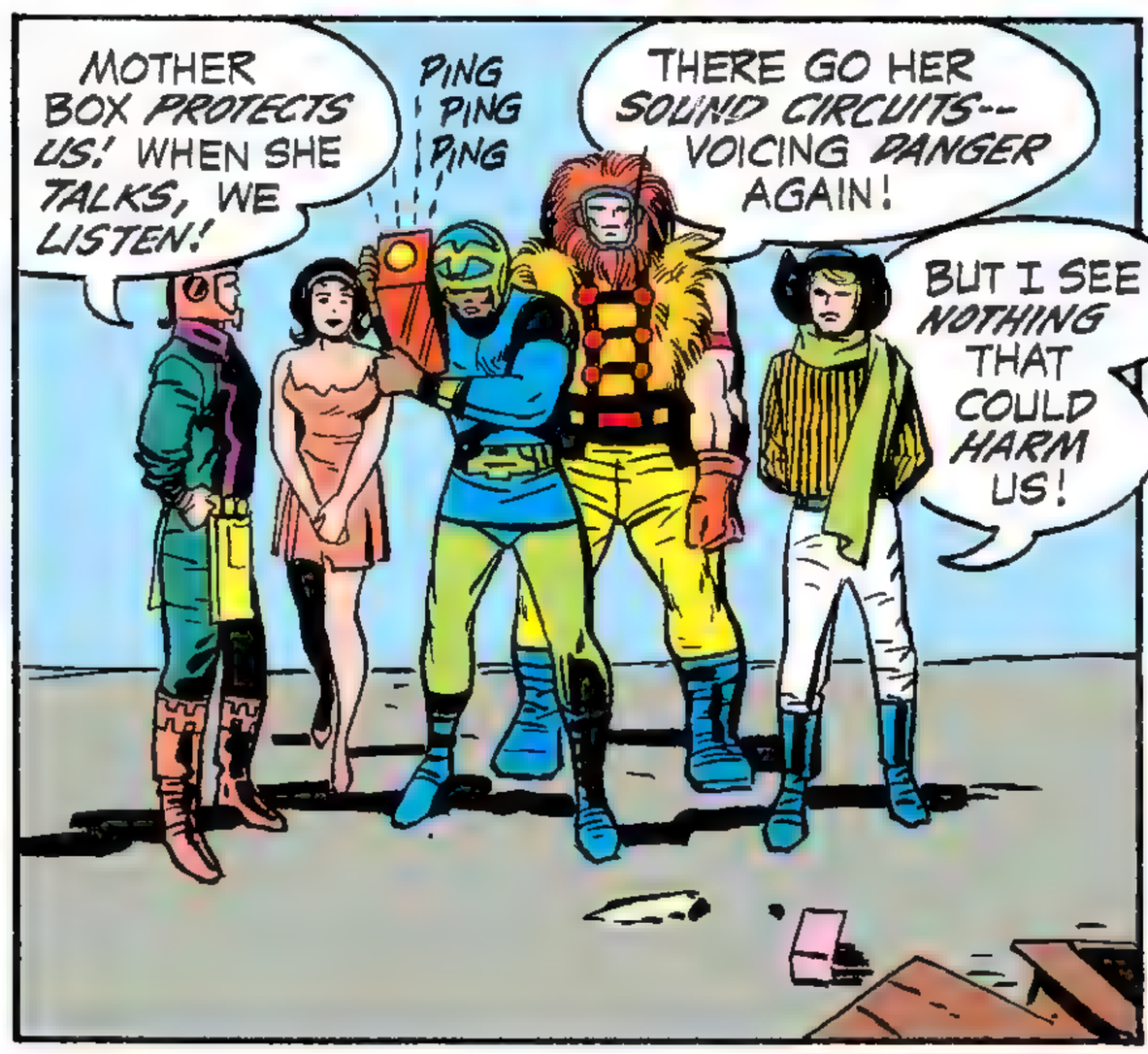
FOOL! TAKE EARTH! ENSLAVE ALL OF MANKIND! BUT DO NOT CHALLENGE MY POWER HERE! FOR I SEEK ANOTHER PRIZE-- MEANT FOR MYSELF ALONE!
DONE!

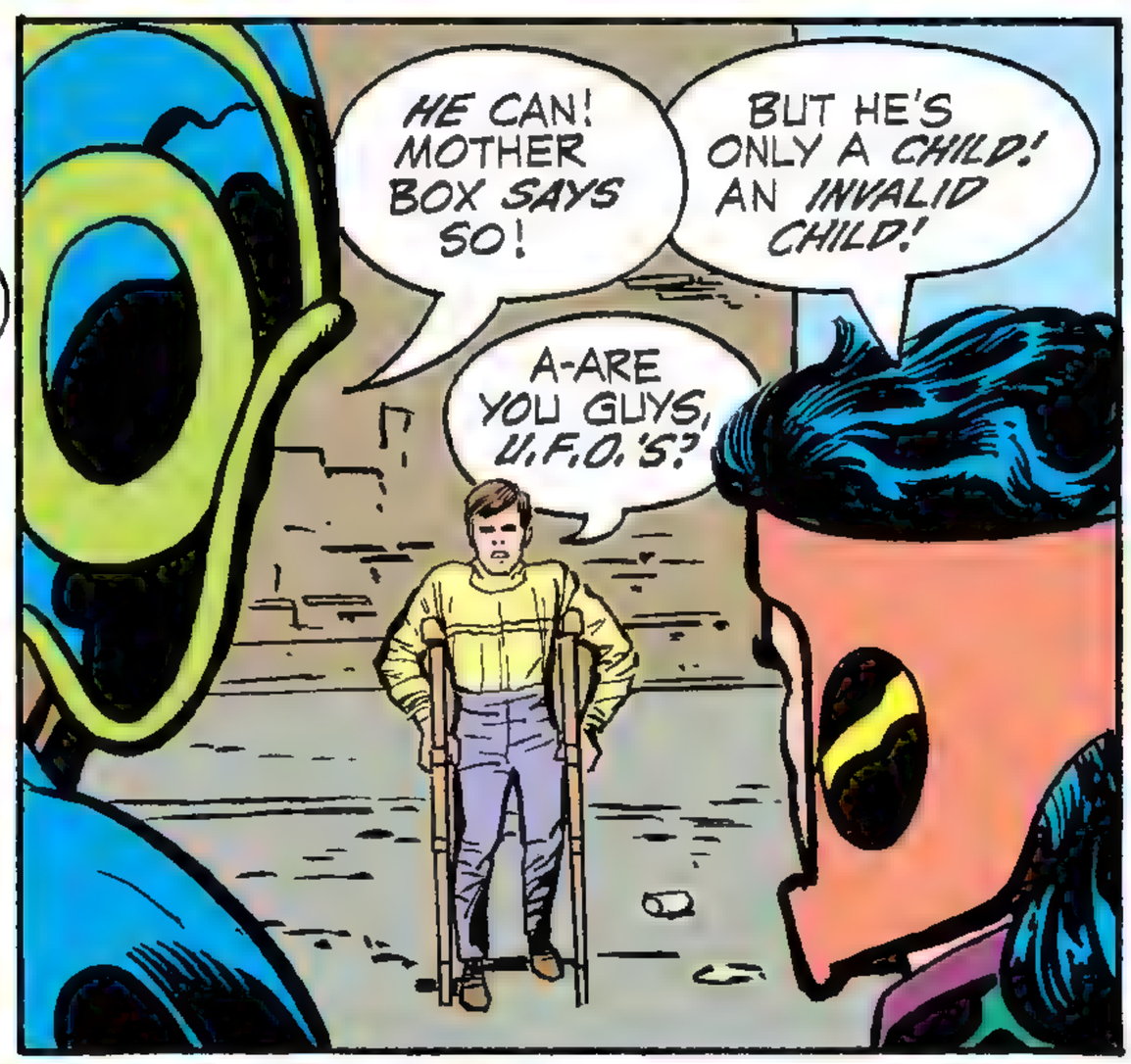

THEN RETURN TO YOUR WRETCHED POD!
DONE!

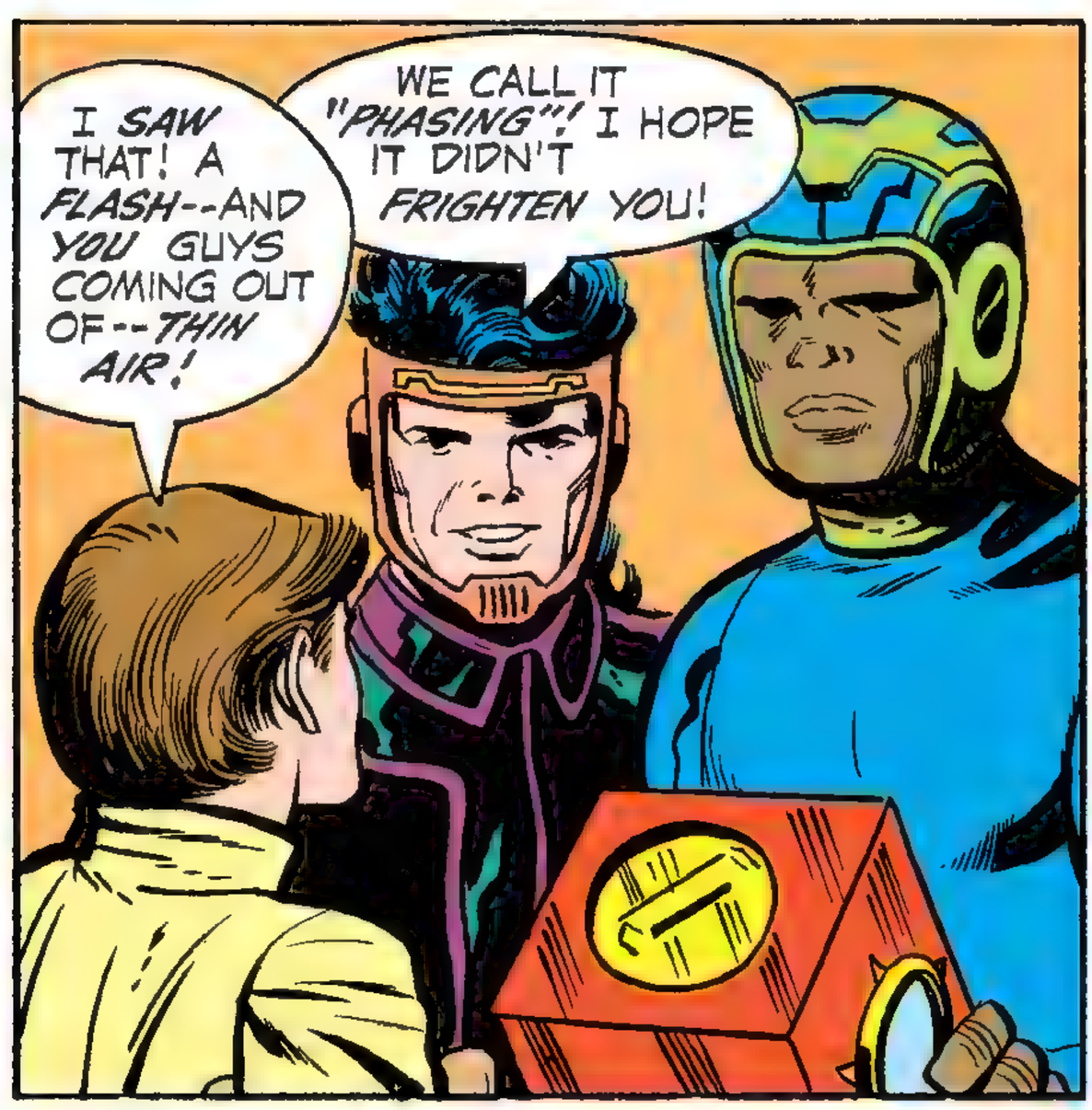
UNLEASH THE TERRORS OF THE NIGHT! MAKE MAN CRINGE! MAKE HIM TREMBLE-- MAKE HIM FEAR!
DONE!


MEANWHILE, IN A DISTRICT OF THE CITY WHERE ABANDONED BUILDINGS WAIT FOR THE COMING OF URBAN RENEWAL--
CONTACT COMPLETED!
WE'RE PHASING IN!
5

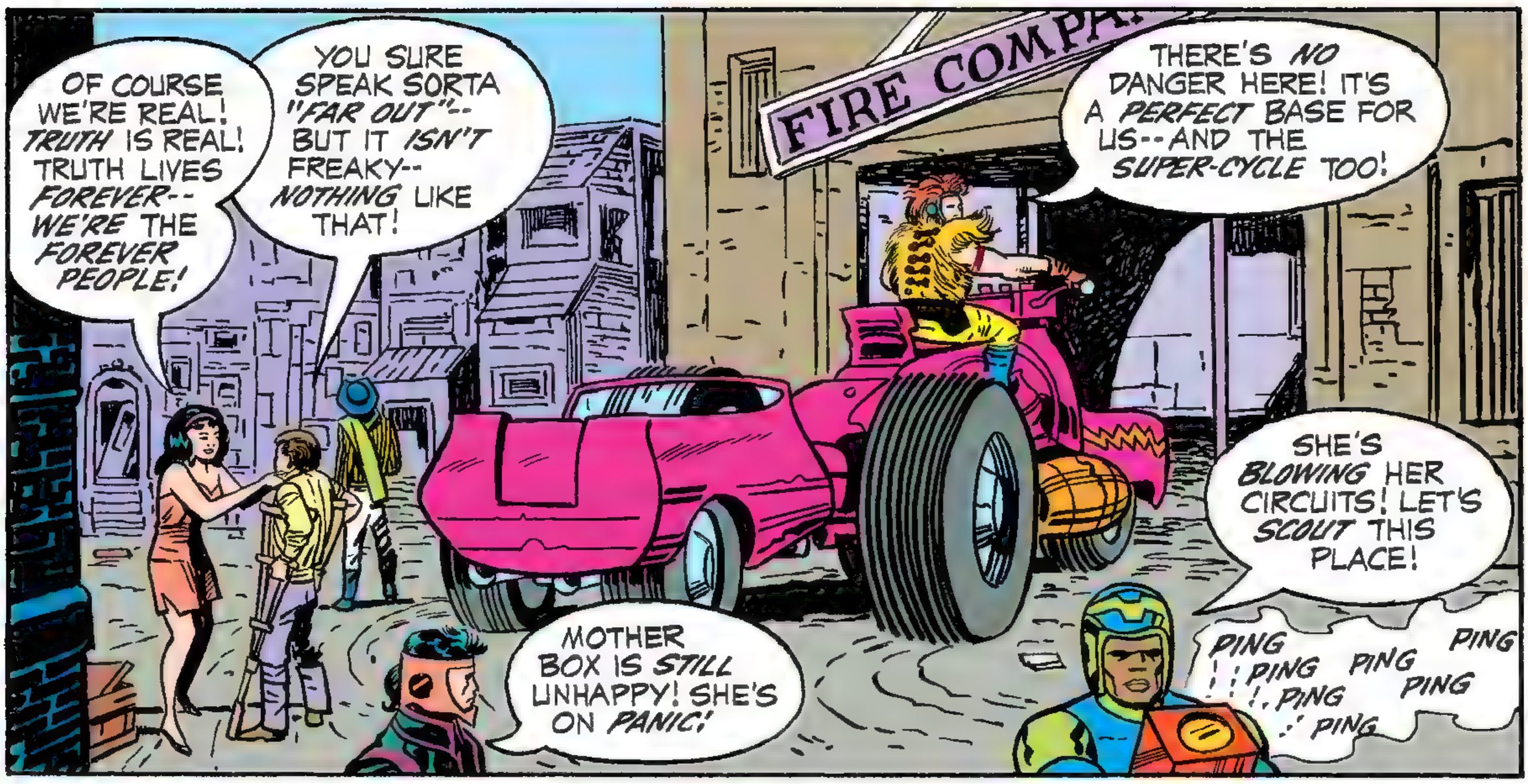

WELL! WE'VE MADE QUITE A JUMP!--FROM MAD AVENUE TO DESOLATION ROW!
BUT IT'S SO PEACE-FUL HERE!
WAIT! MOTHER BOX COMPUTES OUR SITUATION!
MOTHER BOX CAN SAVE HER ADVICE! WE'RE NO LONGER CHILDREN!
PING PING PING

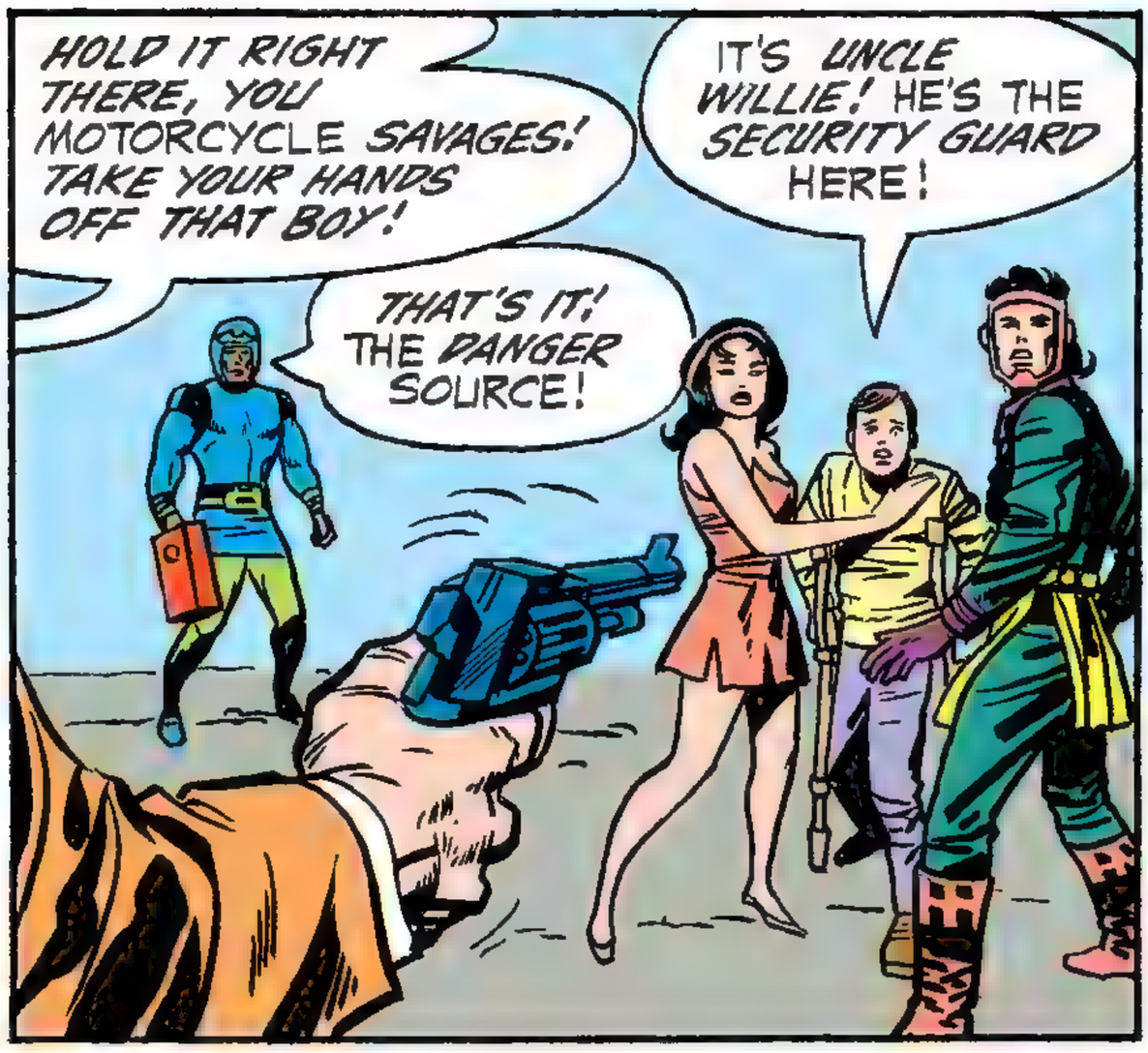

MOTHER BOX PROTECTS US! WHEN SHE TALKS, WE LISTEN!
PING PING PING
THERE GO HER SOUND CIRCUITS--VOICING DANGER AGAIN!
BUT I SEE NOTHING THAT COULD HARM US!


HE CAN! MOTHER BOX SAYS SO!
BUT HE'S ONLY A CHILD! AN INVALID CHILD!
A-ARE YOU GUYS, U.F.O.'S?


I SAW THAT! A FLASH--AND YOU GUYS COMING OUT OF--THIN AIR!
WE CALL IT "PHASING"! I HOPE IT DIDN'T FRIGHTEN YOU!

IT'S JUST ANOTHER WAY TO TRAVEL!! HERE, MEN BUILD ROADS FROM WHAT THEY SEE--WE BUILD ROADS FROM WHAT OUR SENSORS SEE!
OH, WOW! I'VE HIT THE JACKPOT! YOU'RE FROM OUTTA THIS WORLD--AND YOU'RE REAL!
6


OF COURSE WE'RE REAL! TRUTH IS REAL! TRUTH LIVES FOREVER-- WE'RE THE FOREVER PEOPLE!
YOU SURE SPEAK SORTA "FAR OUT"-- BUT IT ISN'T FREAKY-- NOTHING LIKE THAT!
FIRE COMPA
THERE'S NO DANGER HERE! IT'S A PERFECT BASE FOR US--AND THE SUPER-CYCLE TOO!
SHE'S BLOWING HER CIRCUITS! LET'S SCOUT THIS PLACE!
MOTHER BOX IS STILL UNHAPPY! SHE'S ON PANIC!
PING PING PING PING PING PING PING


HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, YOU MOTORCYCLE SAVAGES! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF THAT BOY!
IT'S UNCLE WILLIE! HE'S THE SECURITY GUARD HERE!
THAT'S IT! THE DANGER SOURCE!

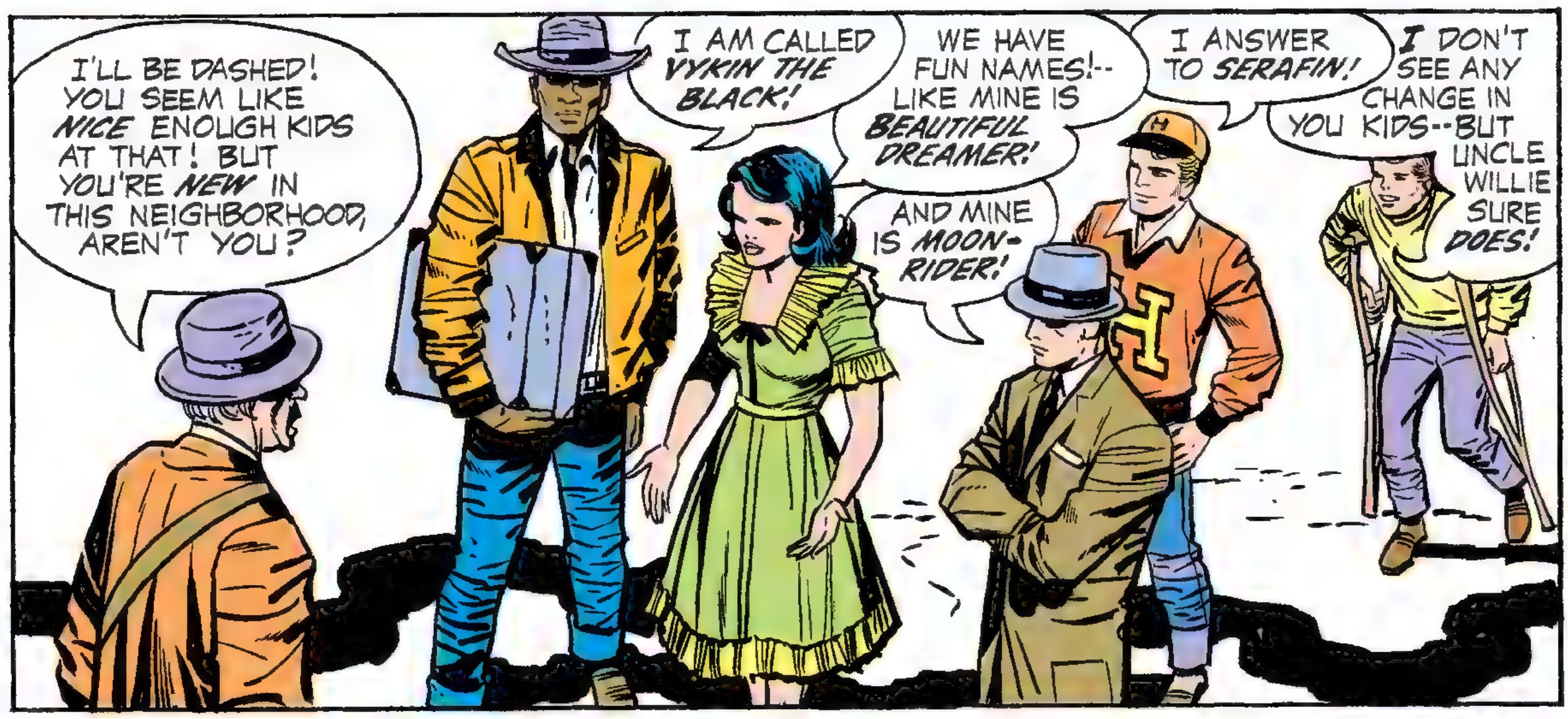
YOU BET I AM! AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS, WE STAY SECURE!
NOW, COME OVER HERE, DONNIE BOY-- HERE TO MY SIDE!

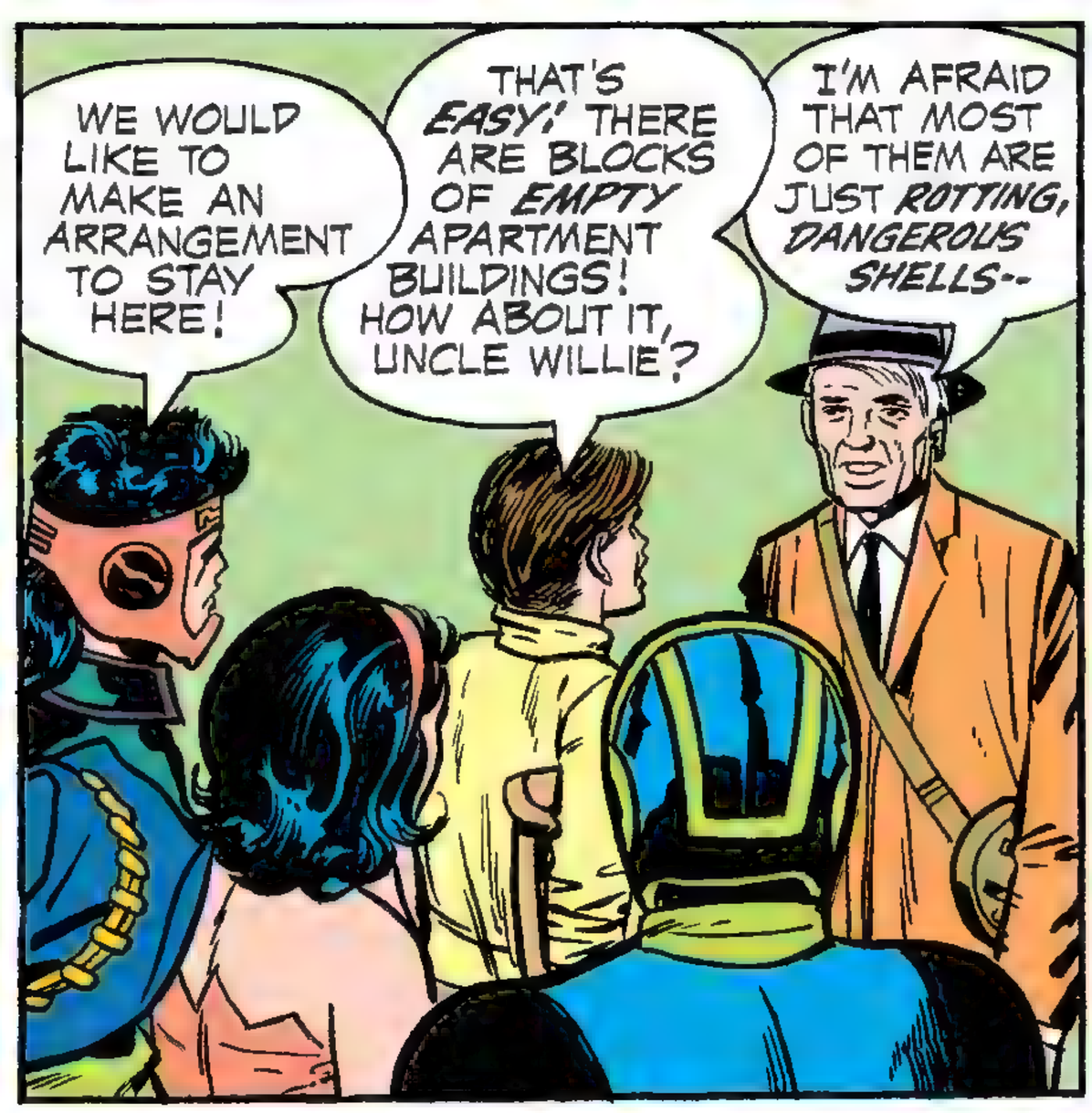
NO, UNCLE WILLIE, WE ARE NOT AS YOU SEE US... YOUR MIND AND HEART ARE RACING-- SLOW THEM DOWN-- DOWN--
THERE'S NO HASSLE, UNCLE WILLIE! THEY'RE NOT LIKE THE GANGS WHO COME HERE TO START TROUBLE!

MOTHER BOX CAN ACT--SWIFTER THAN HIS WEAPON--
NO--UNCLE WILLIE IS ONLY CONFUSED-- LIKE A MAN IN A DREAM--
BACK! BACK!
7

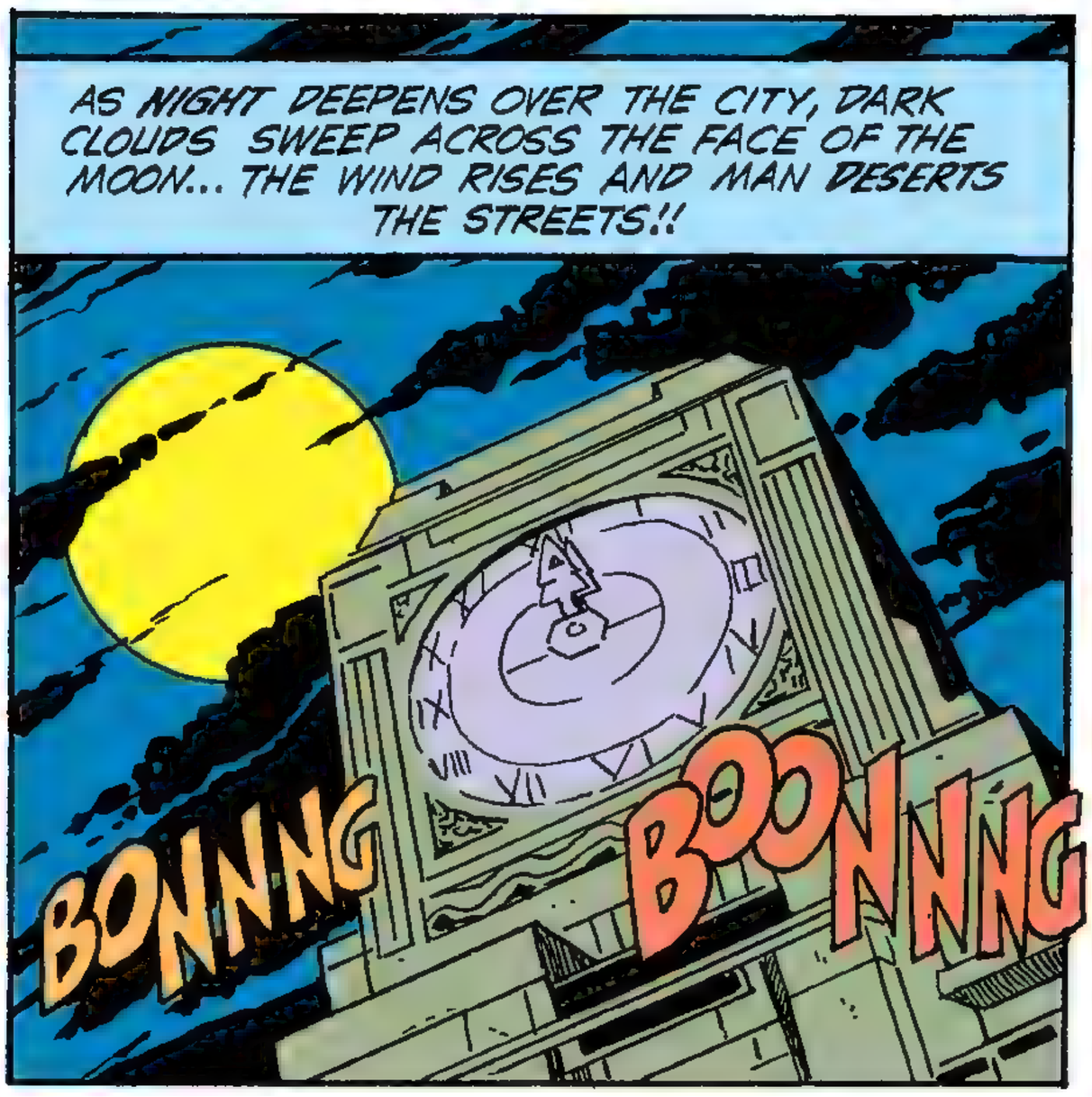
I MAY BE GETTING OLD-- BUT I KNOW YOUR TYPES! I CAN SEE THAT--THAT--
HE'S PUT DOWN HIS GUN! BEAUTIFUL DREAMER IS PROBING FOR IMAGES--!
YES--THE KIND OF IMAGES UNCLE WILLIE KNOWS AND LIKES--

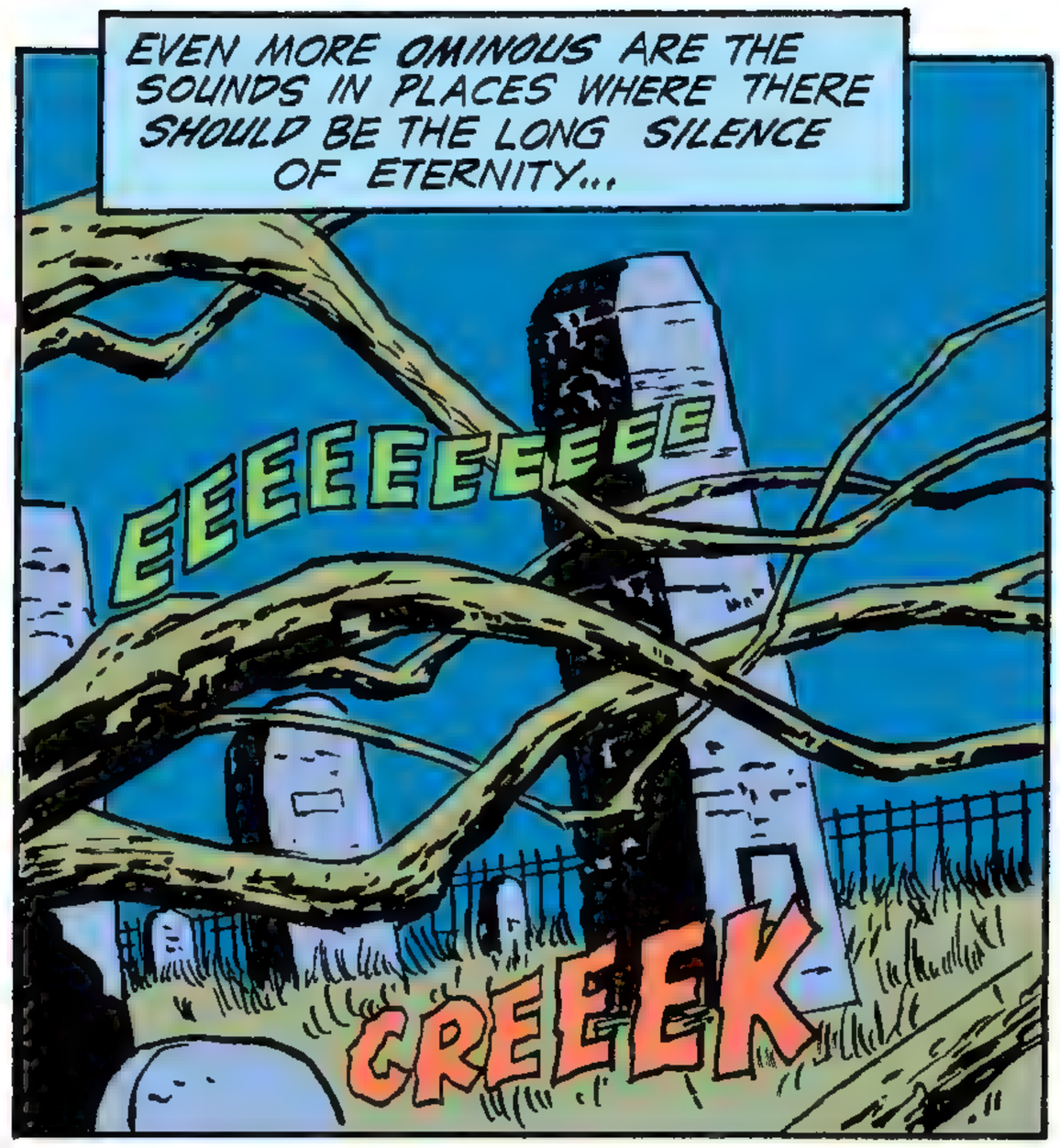
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? YOU KIDS LOOK SO DIFFERENT-- AND, YET, SO FAMILIAR!
WHY SURE! YOU USED TO KNOW LOTS OF KIDS LIKE US! REMEMBER? WE NEVER PASSED WITHOUT SAYING "HELLO"!

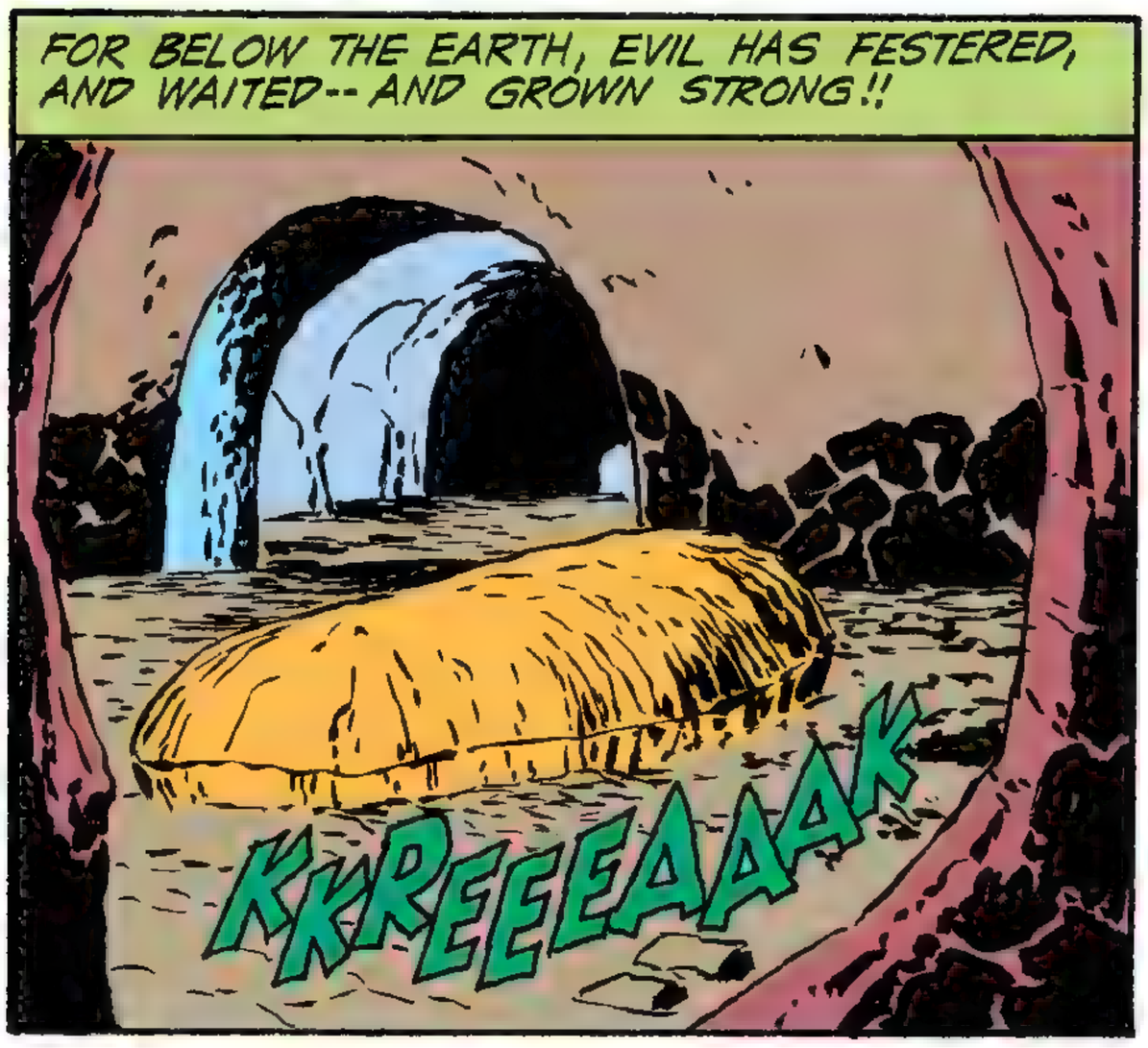

I'LL BE DASHED! YOU SEEM LIKE NICE ENOUGH KIDS AT THAT! BUT YOU'RE NEW IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD, AREN'T YOU?
I AM CALLED VYKIN THE BLACK!
WE HAVE FUN NAMES!-- LIKE MINE IS BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
AND MINE IS MOON-RIDER!
I ANSWER TO SERAFIN!
I DON'T SEE ANY CHANGE IN YOU KIDS--BUT UNCLE WILLIE SURE DOES!

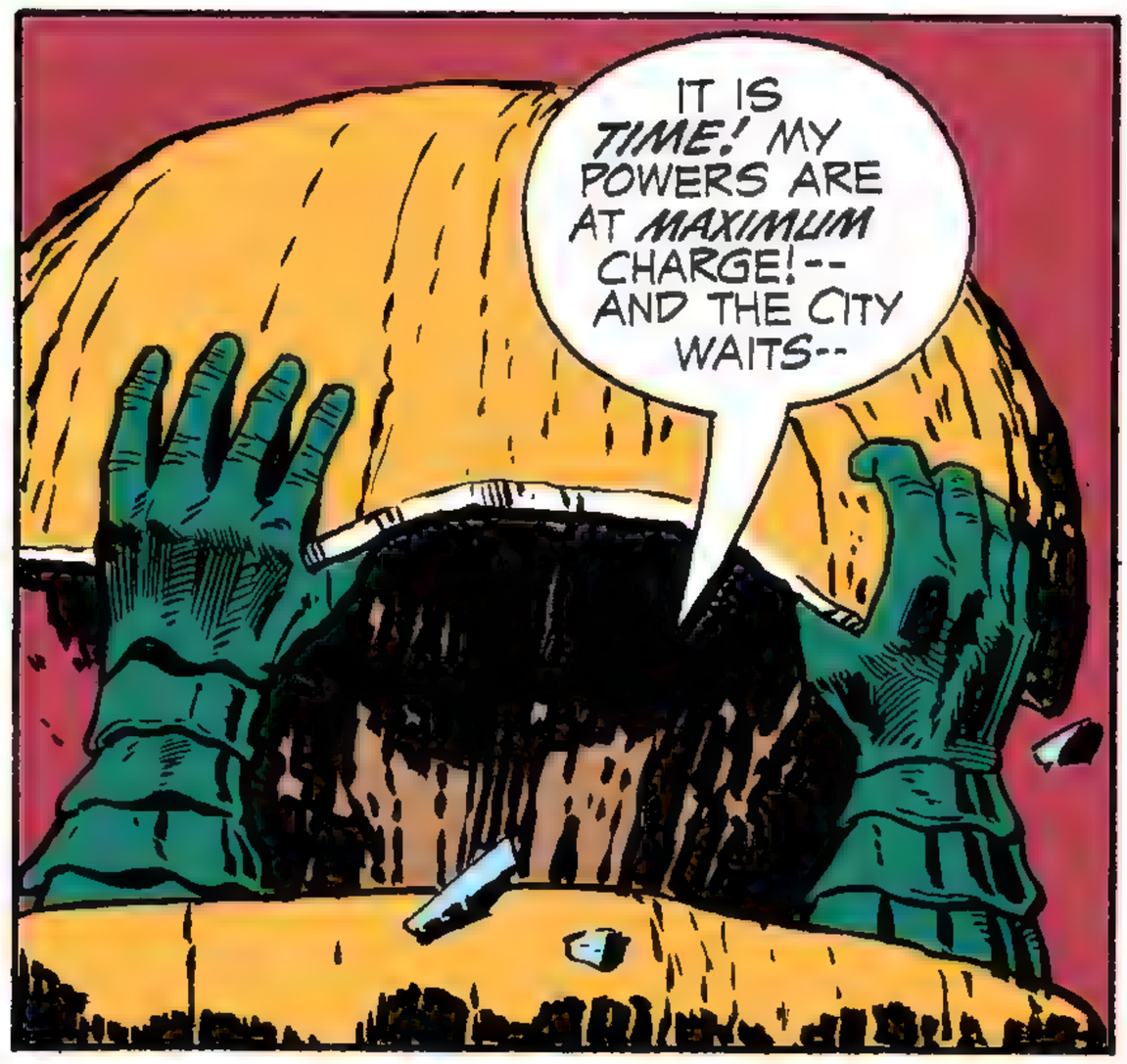

WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN ARRANGEMENT TO STAY HERE!
THAT'S EASY! THERE ARE BLOCKS OF EMPTY APARTMENT BUILDINGS! HOW ABOUT IT, UNCLE WILLIE?
I'M AFRAID THAT MOST OF THEM ARE JUST ROTTING, DANGEROUS SHELLS--

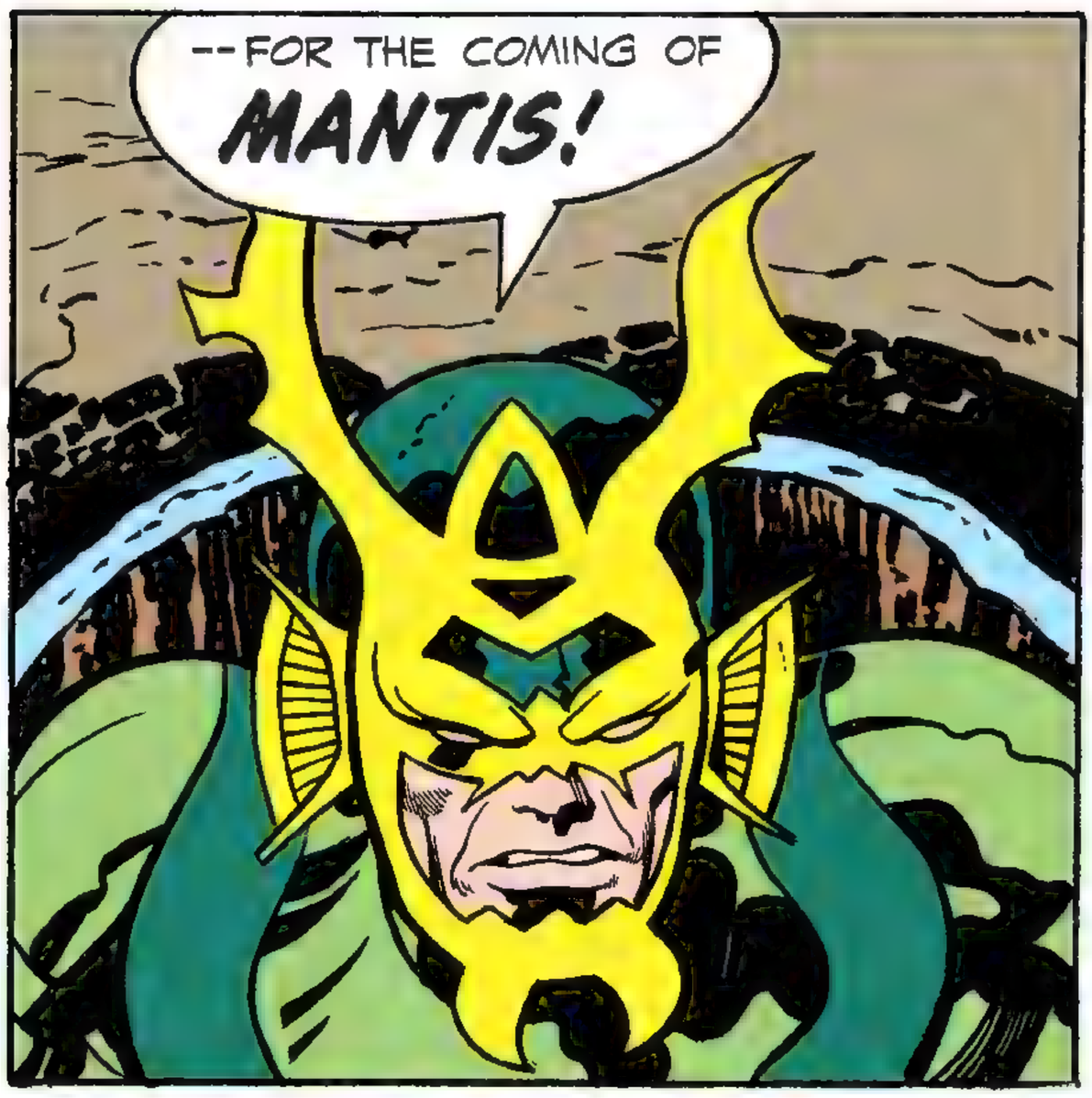
BUT DONNIE AND I LIVE IN NUMBER 309! I'M SURE WE CAN FIND SOMETHING FOR YOU THERE!
GROOVY, UNCLE WILLIE! WE SURE CAN USE THE COMPANY!
8

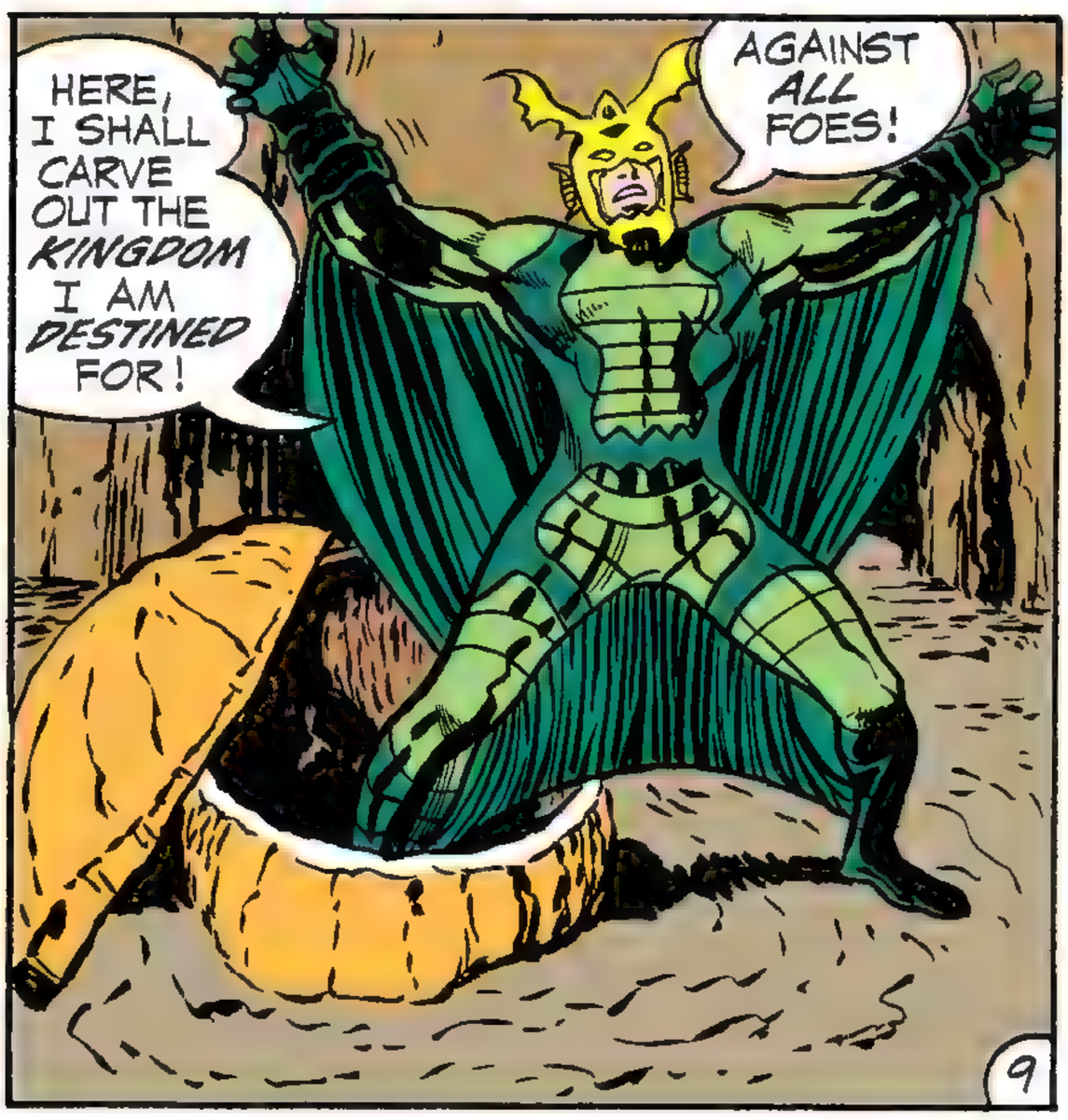

AS NIGHT DEEPENS OVER THE CITY, DARK CLOUDS SWEEP ACROSS THE FACE OF THE MOON... THE WIND RISES AND MAN DESERTS THE STREETS!!
BONNNG
BOONNNG


EVEN MORE OMINOUS ARE THE SOUNDS IN PLACES WHERE THERE SHOULD BE THE LONG SILENCE OF ETERNITY...
EEEEEEEEEEE
CREEEK

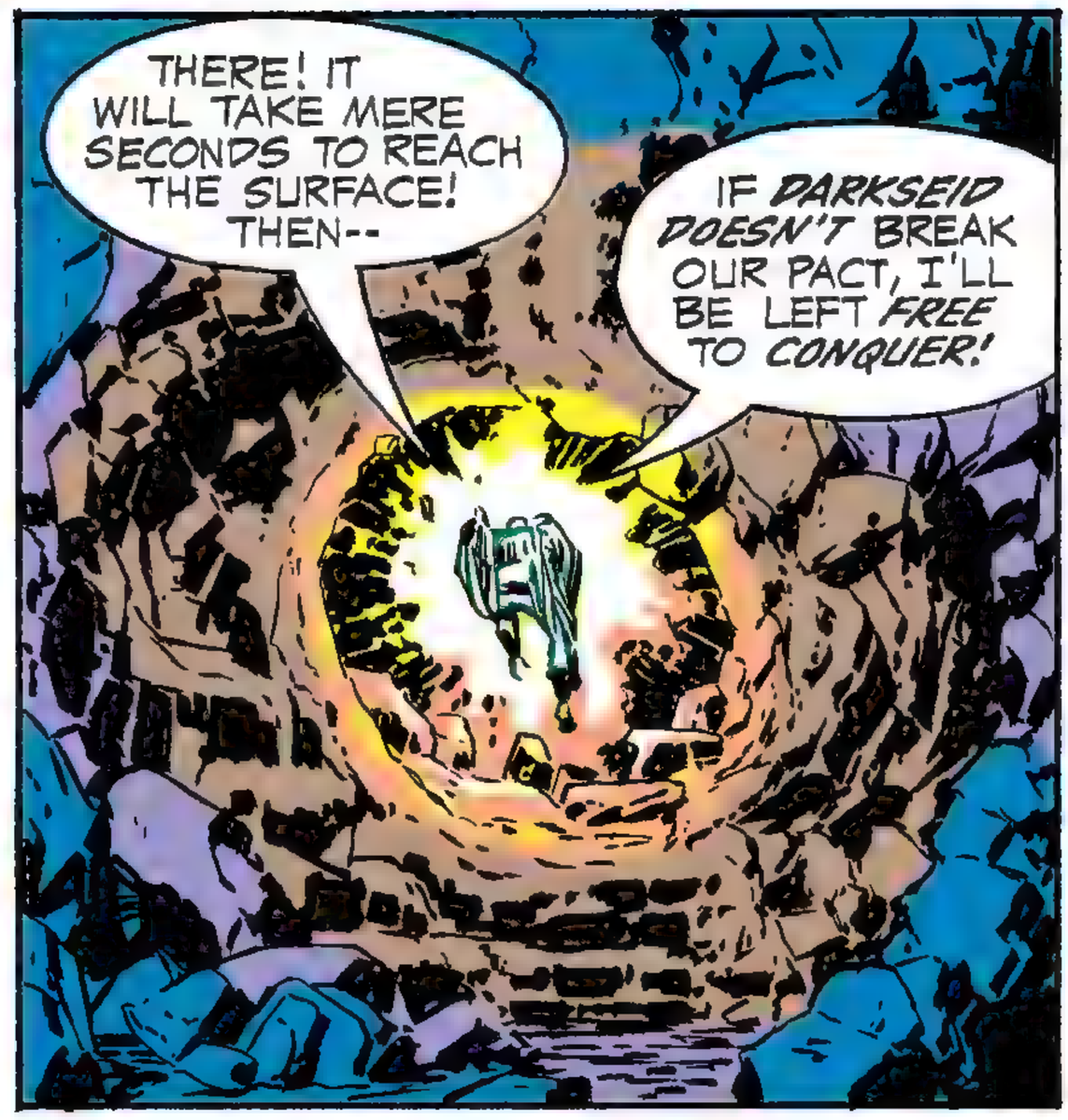

FOR BELOW THE EARTH, EVIL HAS FESTERED, AND WAITED-- AND GROWN STRONG!!
KKREEEAAAK


IT IS TIME! MY POWERS ARE AT MAXIMUM CHARGE!-- AND THE CITY WAITS--


--FOR THE COMING OF MANTIS!

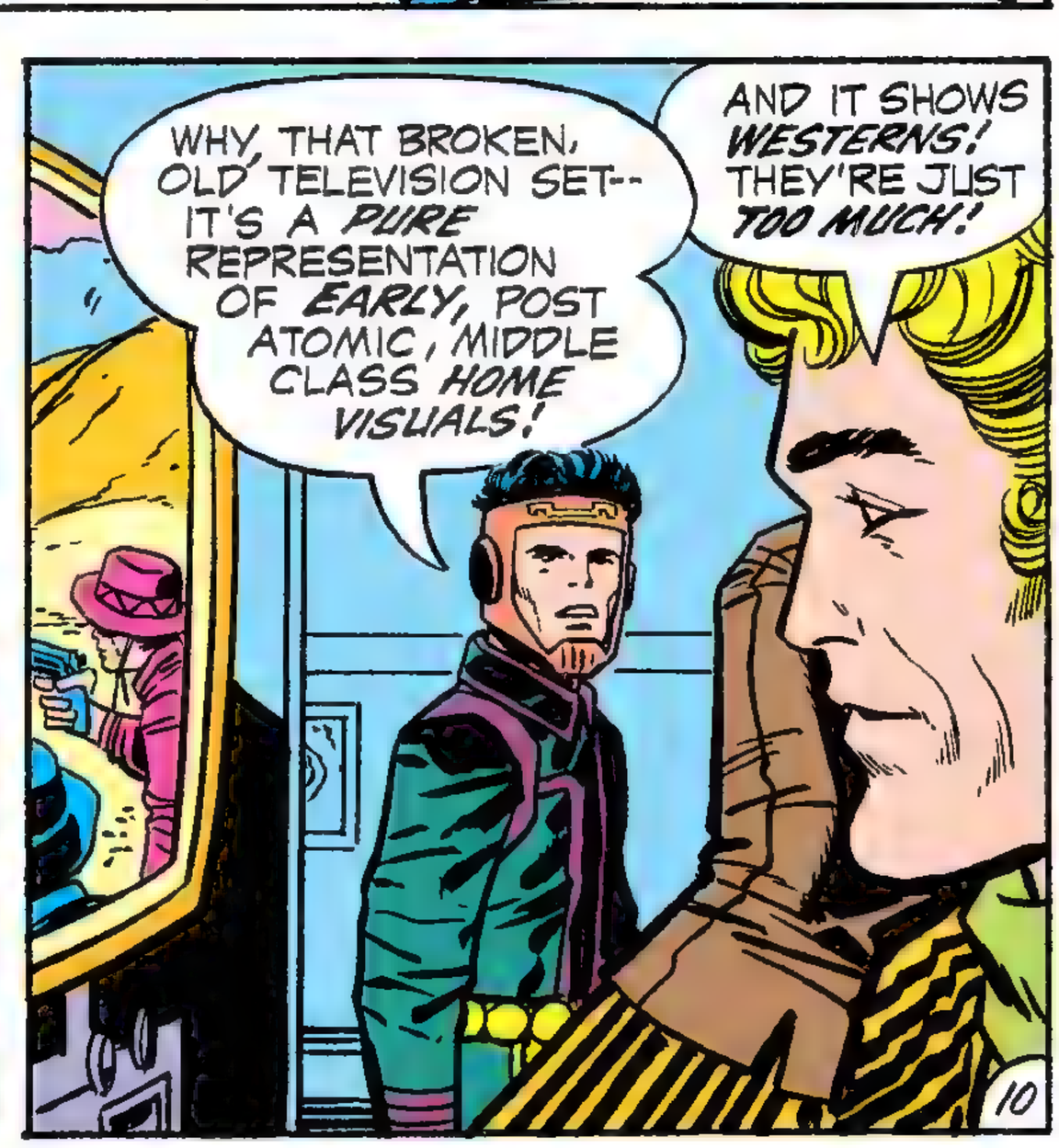

HERE, I SHALL CARVE OUT THE KINGDOM I AM DESTINED FOR!
AGAINST ALL FOES!
9

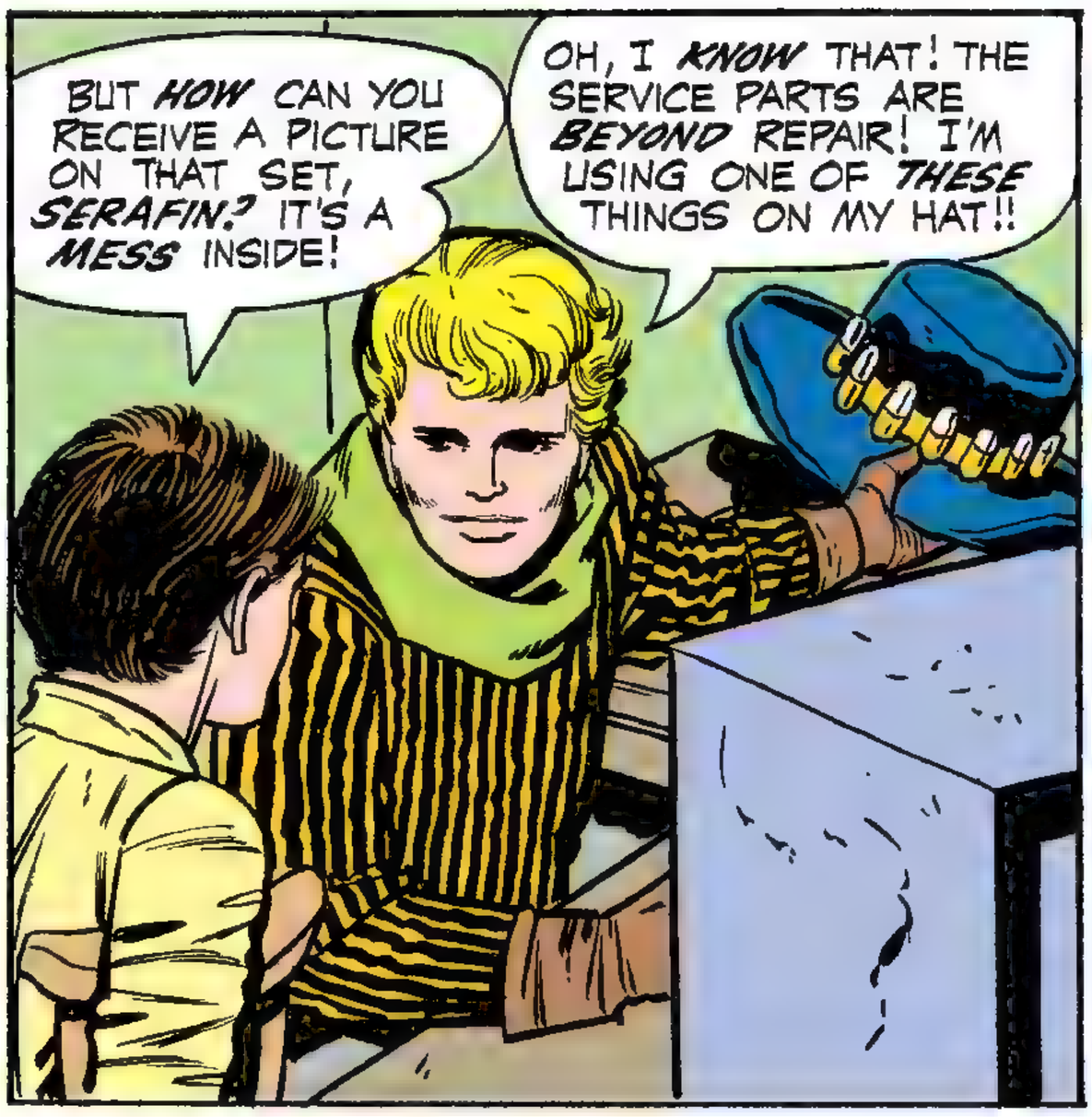
AAAA-- THE POWER SURGES INSIDE ME-- RUSHING TO GET OUT!
--AND DESTROYS WHAT MY FINGERS TOUCH!
BARROM

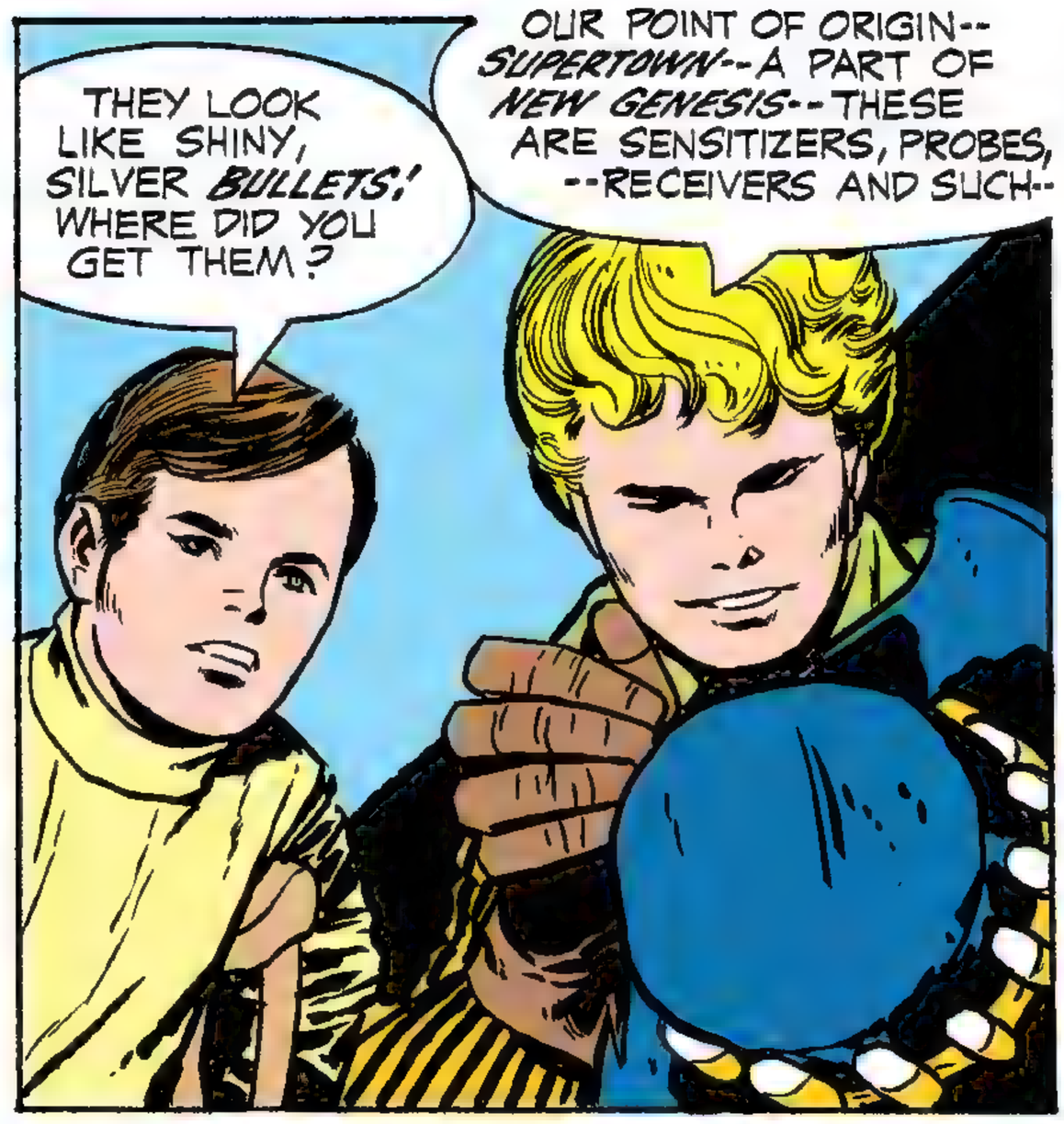

THERE! IT WILL TAKE MERE SECONDS TO REACH THE SURFACE! THEN--
IF DARKSEID DOESN'T BREAK OUR PACT, I'LL BE LEFT FREE TO CONQUER!

MEANWHILE...
YOU'RE MAKING SOME GREAT FINDS, BIG BEAR! SOME OF THIS FURNITURE LEFT BEHIND BY FORMER TENANTS IS STILL IN FAIR SHAPE!
YOU'VE FOUND ENOUGH TO FURNISH AN APARTMENT FOR BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
THIS IS PURE CAMP! IT'LL BE GREAT IN OUR ROOM!

STAY CLEAR, DONNIE, WHILE I EASE THIS COUCH IN! ART MUST BE HANDLED WITH CARE!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY UNCLE WILLIE CALLS THIS JUNK!

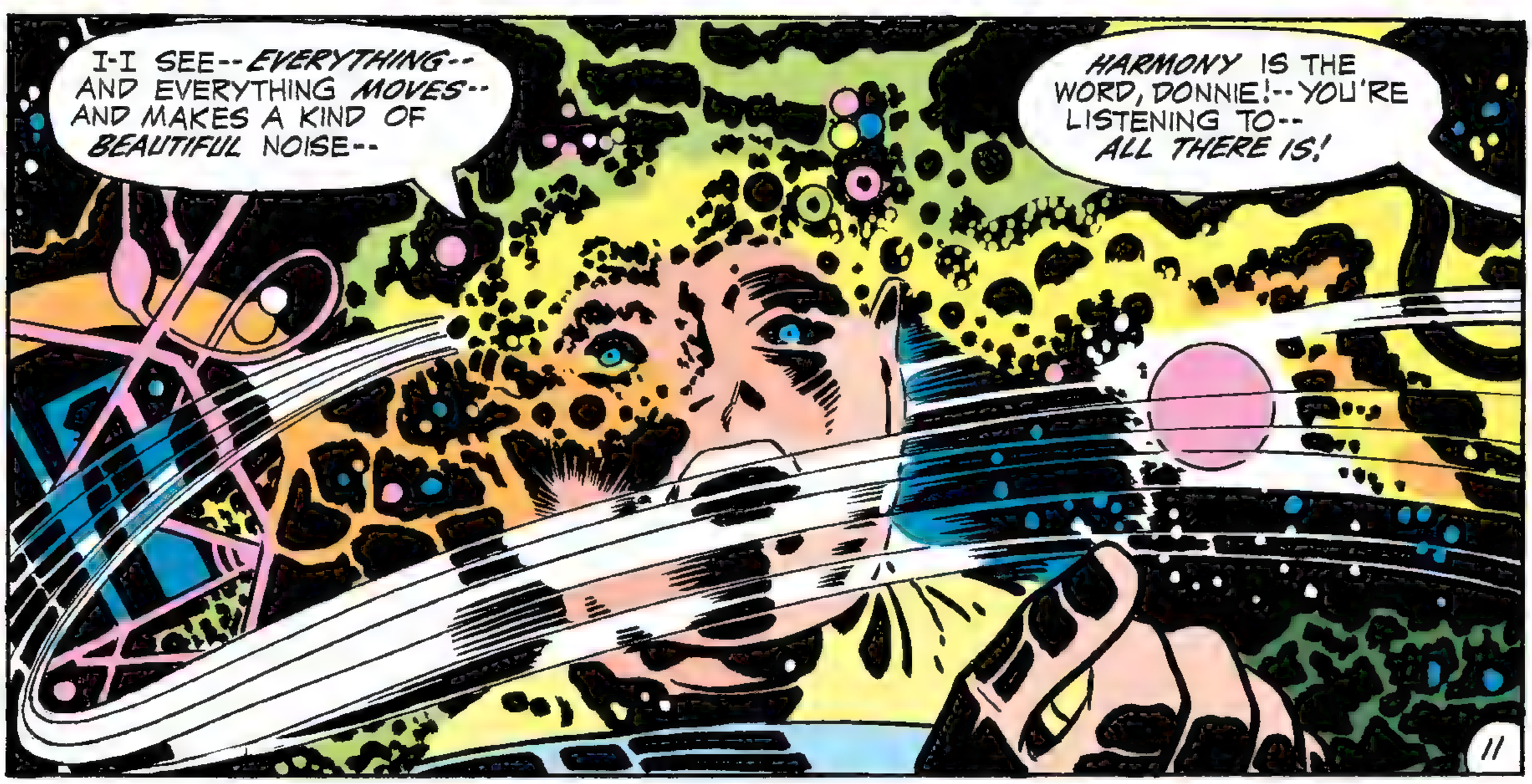

WHY, THAT BROKEN, OLD TELEVISION SET-- IT'S A PURE REPRESENTATION OF EARLY, POST ATOMIC, MIDDLE CLASS HOME VISUALS!
AND IT SHOWS WESTERNS! THEY'RE JUST TOO MUCH!
10


BUT HOW CAN YOU RECEIVE A PICTURE ON THAT SET, SERAFIN? IT'S A MESS INSIDE!
OH, I KNOW THAT! THE SERVICE PARTS ARE BEYOND REPAIR! I'M USING ONE OF THESE THINGS ON MY HAT!!


THEY LOOK LIKE SHINY, SILVER BULLETS! WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?
OUR POINT OF ORIGIN-- SUPERTOWN--A PART OF NEW GENESIS--THESE ARE SENSITIZERS, PROBES, --RECEIVERS AND SUCH--

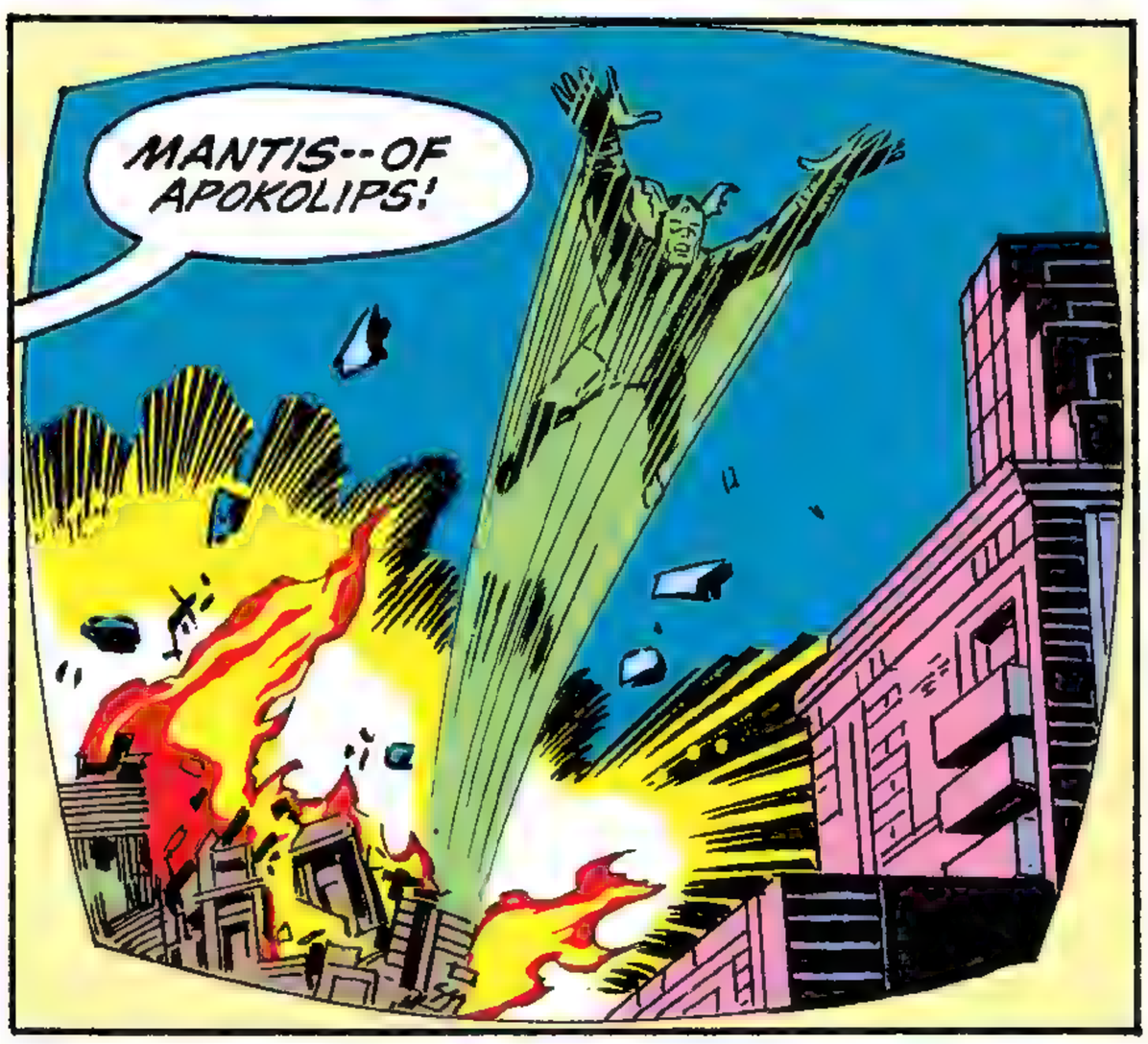
WE CALL THEM COSMIC CARTRIDGES! THEY'RE SENSITIVE TO THE UNIVERSE--TO ITS LARGEST AND SMALLEST LIMITS--
I'D RATHER HEAR MORE ABOUT SUPERTOWN AND NEW GENESIS!-- BUT I'LL TRY THIS--!!
HERE-- HOLD ONE!

I-IT FEELS WARM--LIKE IT WAS ALIVE!-- LIKE IT WAS ME!
--AND I-I'M EVERYWHERE AT ONCE--

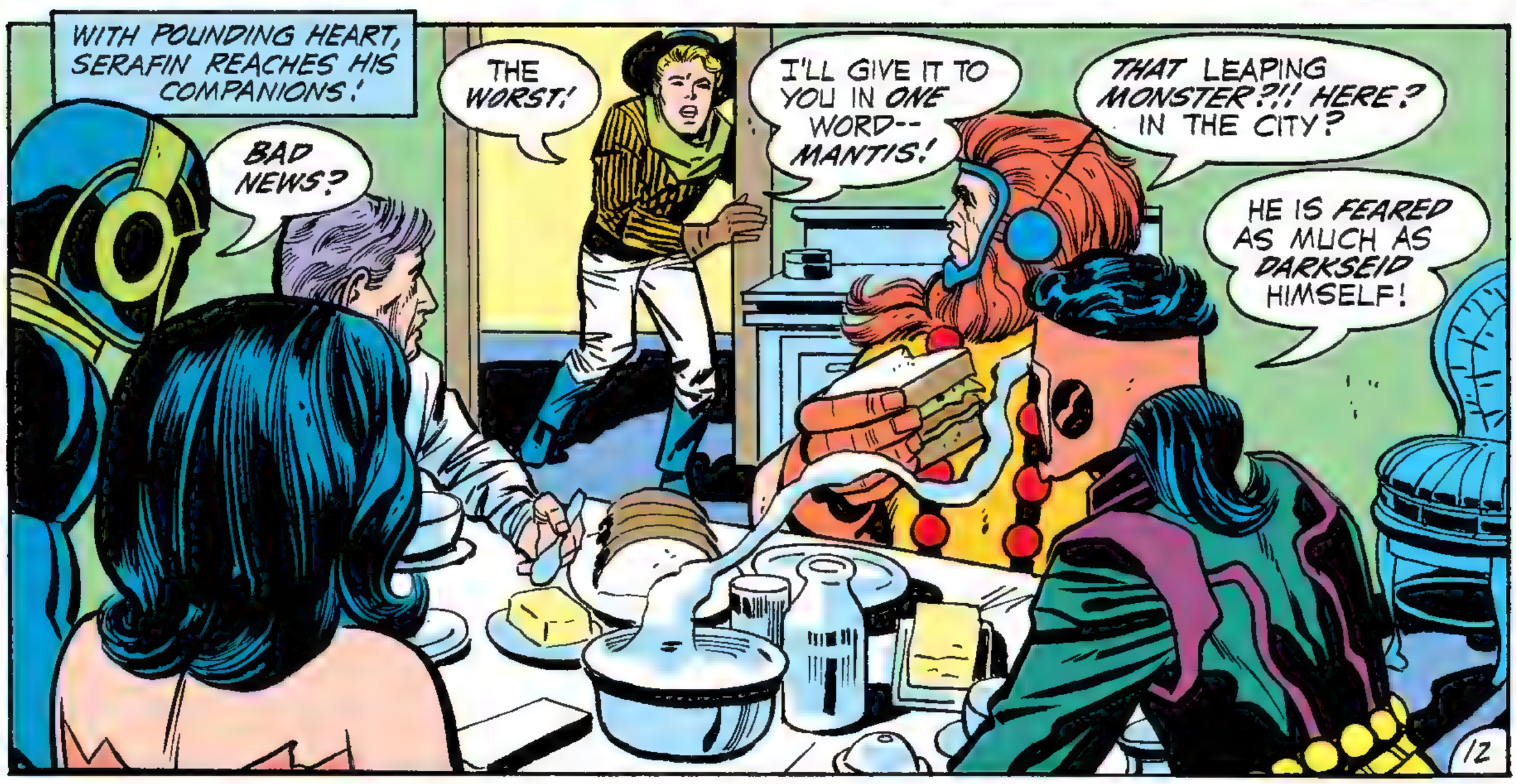

I-I SEE--EVERYTHING-- AND EVERYTHING MOVES-- AND MAKES A KIND OF BEAUTIFUL NOISE--
HARMONY IS THE WORD, DONNIE!--YOU'RE LISTENING TO-- ALL THERE IS!

SERAFIN-- WHY HAVE YOU FOREVER PEOPLE COME HERE?
QUIET, DONNIE!
WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR A LATE NEWS BULLETIN! THE CITY, AT THIS MOMENT, IS IN A STATE OF CRISIS!

A POWERFUL BEING OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN AND NATURE IS CAUSING GREAT HAVOC! STAY IN YOUR HOMES-- THE POLICE ARE DOING ALL THEY CAN TO BRING HIM UNDER CONTROL!


MANTIS--OF APOKOLIPS!

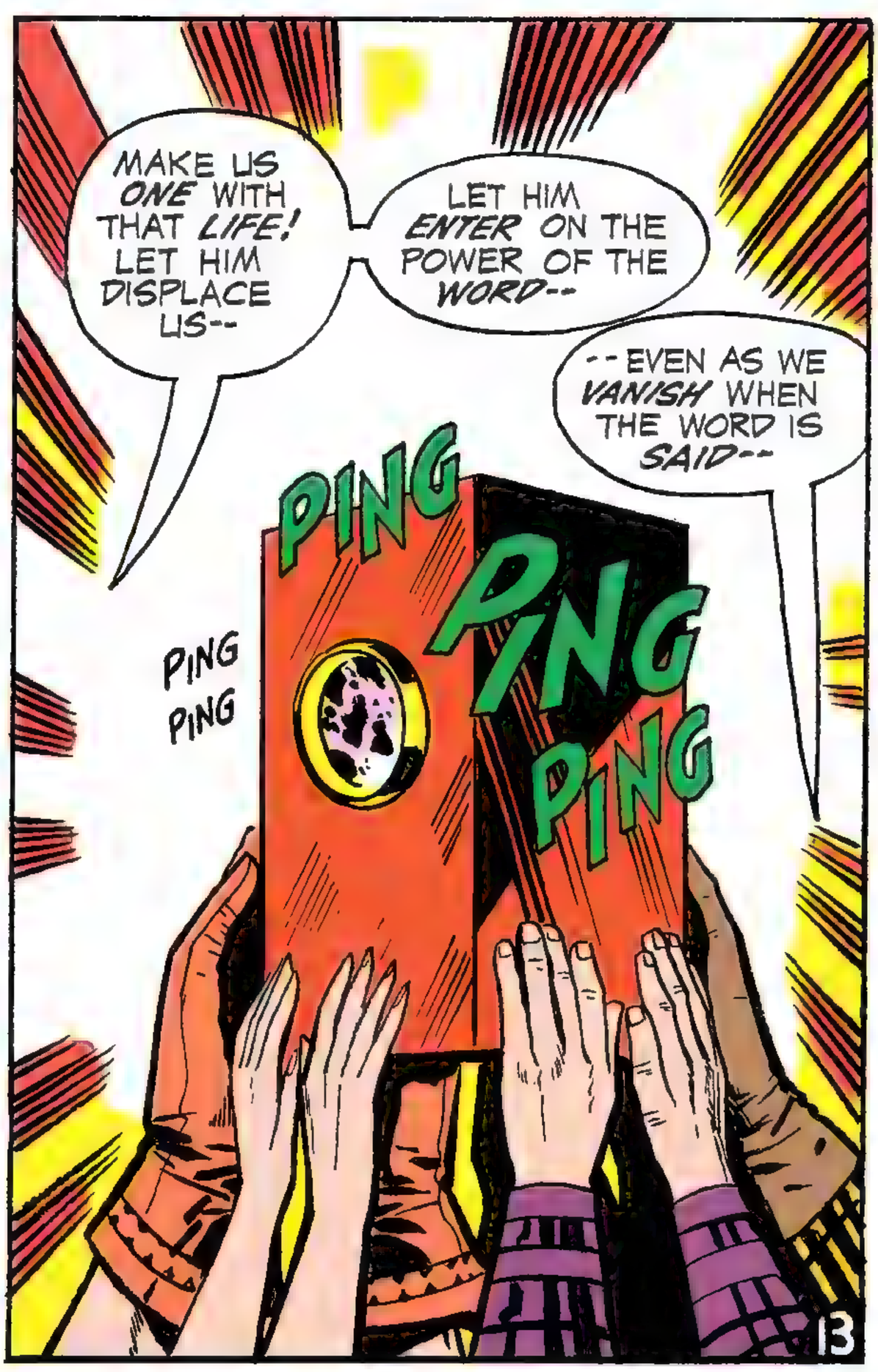
HE'S ONE OF THE REASONS WE'RE HERE, DONNIE! WHERE ARE MOONRIDER AND THE REST?
TH-THEY'RE HAVING SOME CHOW WITH UNCLE WILLIE!

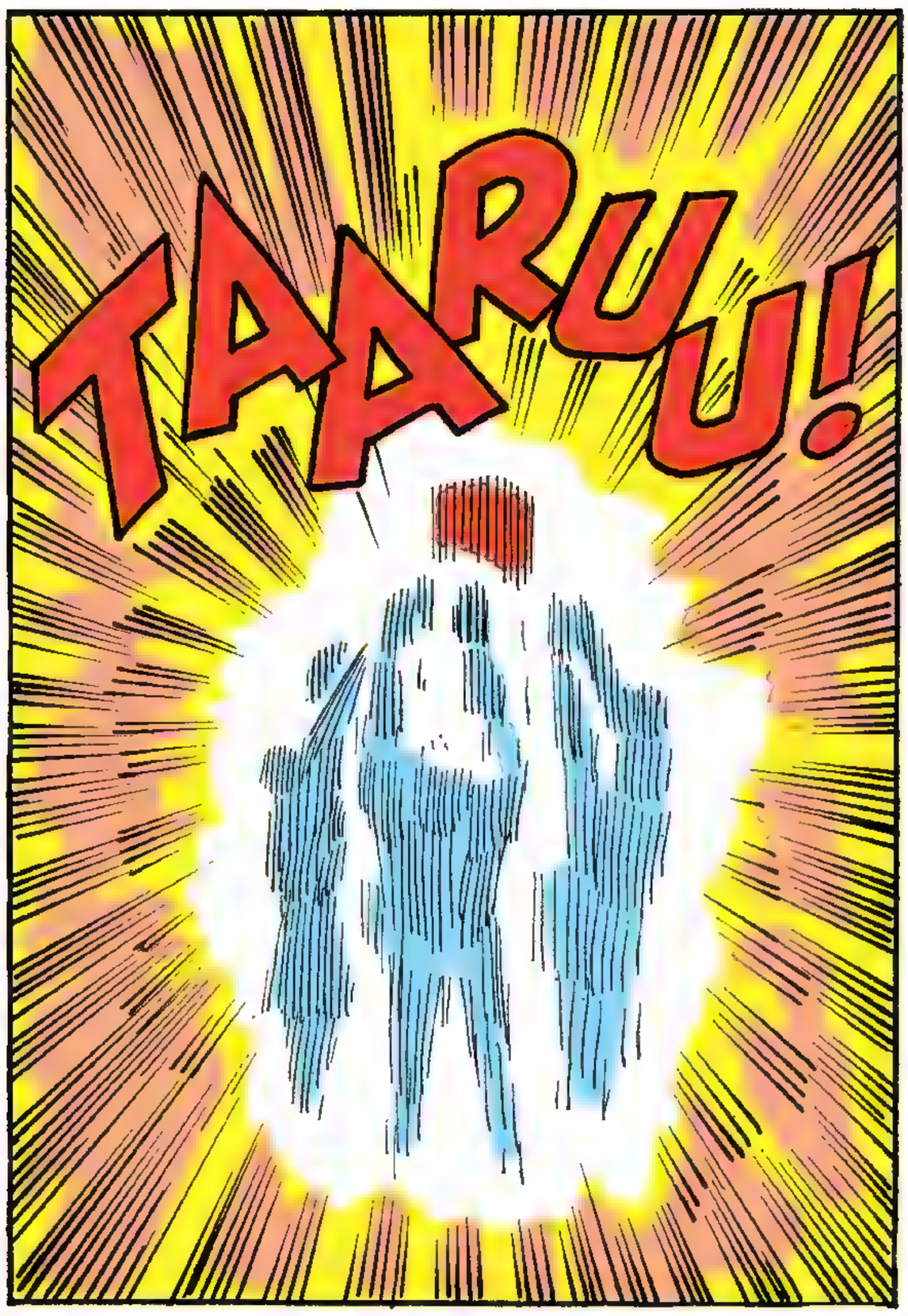

WITH POUNDING HEART, SERAFIN REACHES HIS COMPANIONS!
BAD NEWS?
THE WORST!
I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU IN ONE WORD-- MANTIS!
THAT LEAPING MONSTER?!! HERE? IN THE CITY?
HE IS FEARED AS MUCH AS DARKSEID HIMSELF!
12

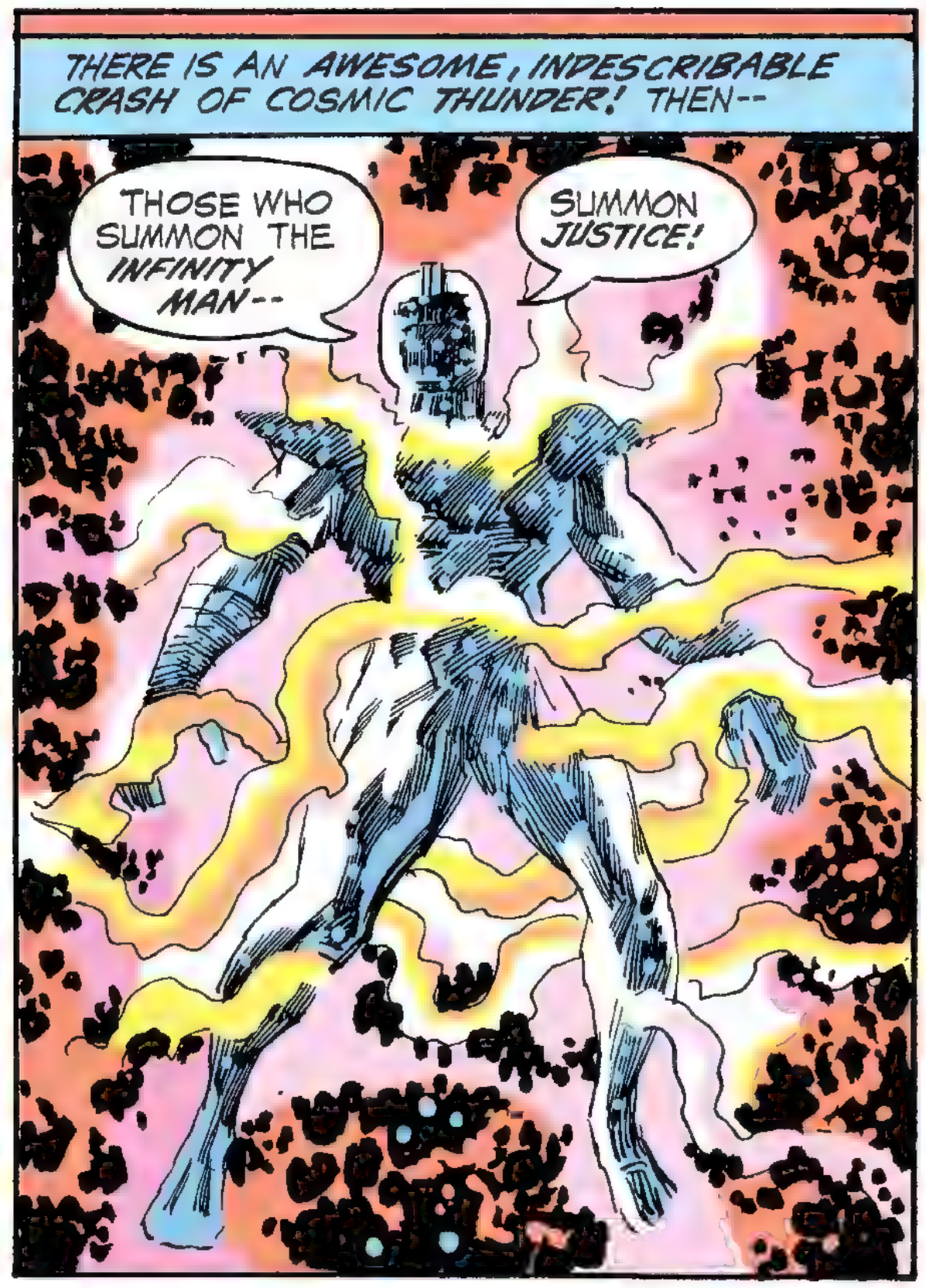
I, FOR ONE, WILL TAKE ON MANTIS OR ANY OTHER EVIL DEMON FROM APOKOLIPS-- BUT MANTIS IS--
I KNOW, BIG BEAR-- WE'LL NEED MORE POWER THAN IS NOW AMONG US-- TO EQUAL WHAT MANTIS CAN UNLEASH!
WE CAN SUMMON ONE WHO CAN STOP HIM--

THE INFINITY MAN! HE MUST BE CALLED!
STAY HERE, WITH YOUR UNCLE, YOUNG FRIEND! WE'LL EXPLAIN LATER!
MOTHER BOX HEARS US! SHE PRIMES FOR THE RITUAL!
PING PING PING

SOON--OUTSIDE...
PING PING PING PING
RISE, MOTHER BOX! SEND OUT YOUR SIGNAL TO THE FARTHEST REACHES--
--WHERE EVEN ALL NATURAL LAW THINS AND FADES--
YET, LIFE EXISTS!


MAKE US ONE WITH THAT LIFE! LET HIM DISPLACE US--
LET HIM ENTER ON THE POWER OF THE WORD--
--EVEN AS WE VANISH WHEN THE WORD IS SAID--
PING PING
PING PING PING
13



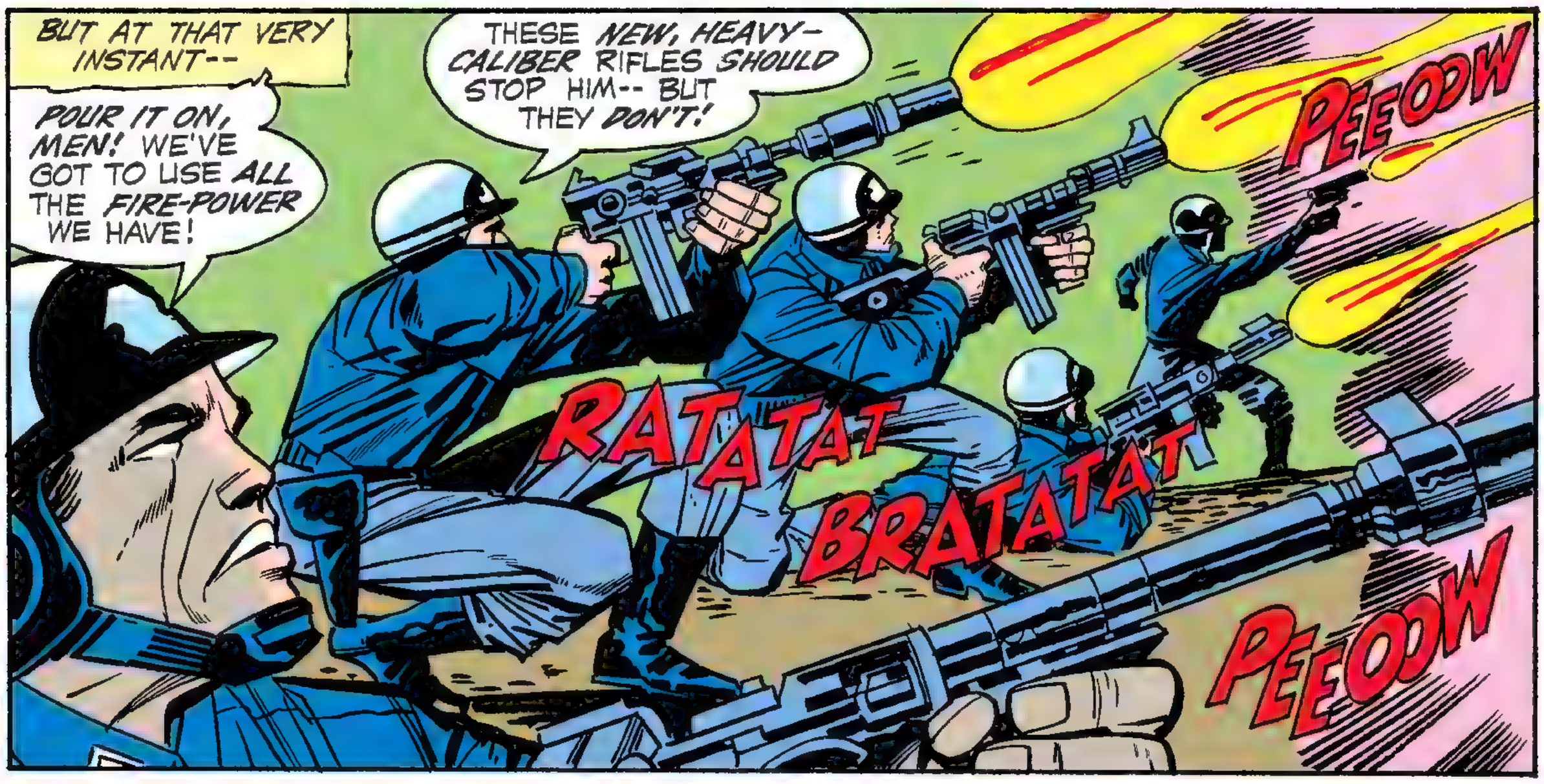


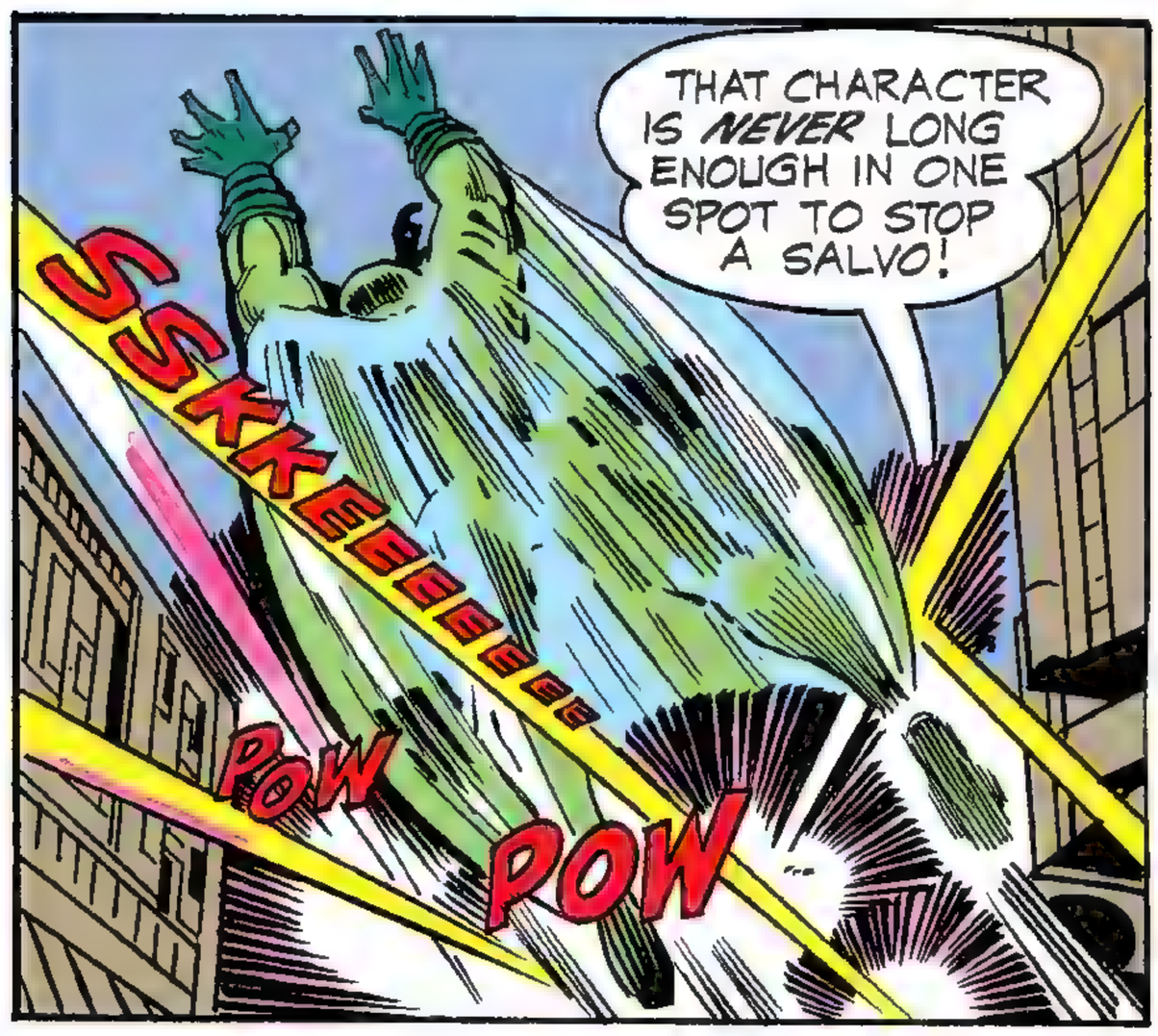
THIS CITY IS BESIEGED! MY MIND REACHES OUT FOR THE THOUGHT WAVES OF THE AGGRESSOR!...

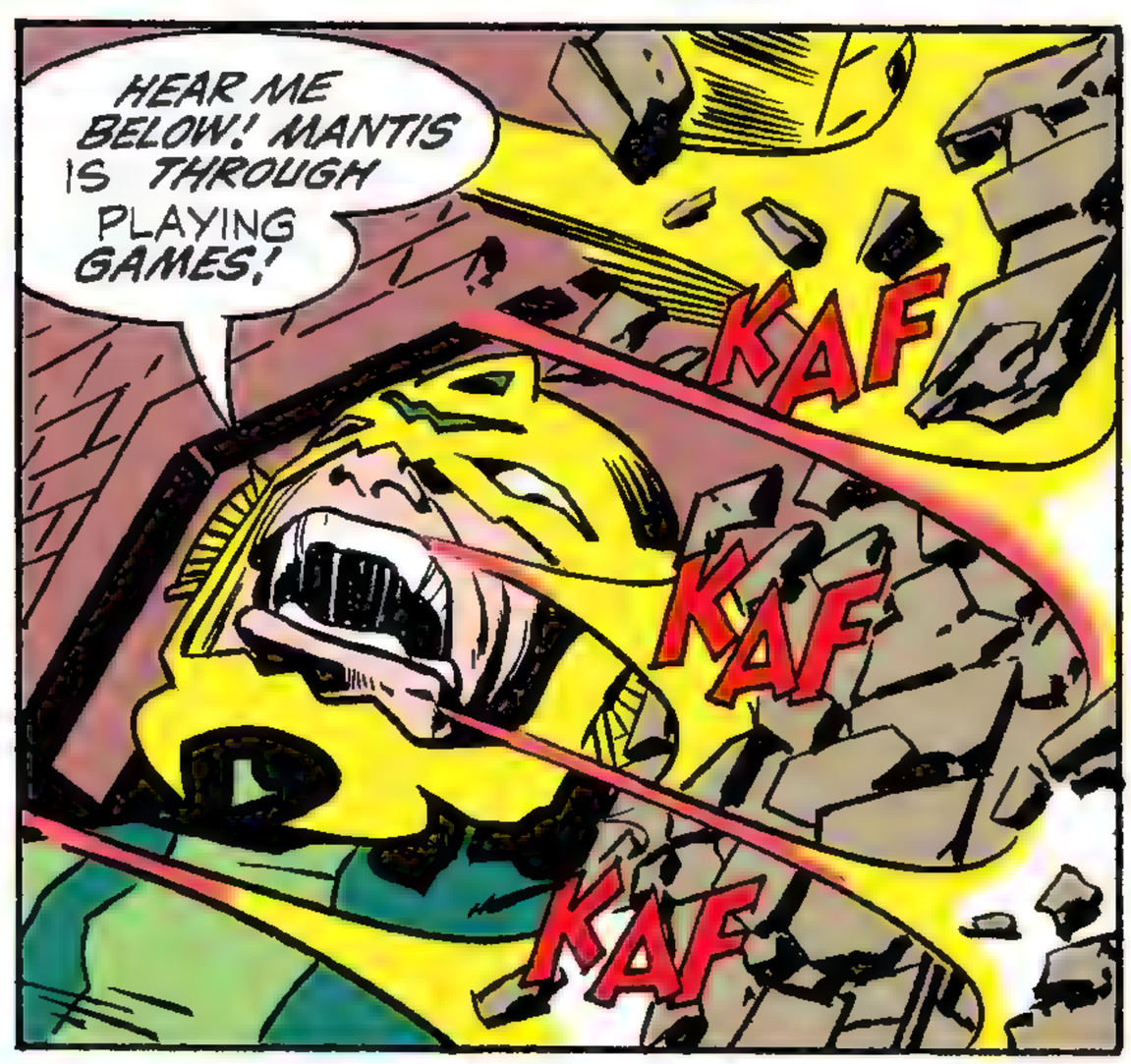
I CAN SENSE HIS FIERY HUNGER FOR CONQUEST AND POWER!

THIS WILL BE A BATTLE WORTHY OF GIANTS! AND, ON THE THRUST OF THE FORCES OF THE INFINITE, I RIDE TO PUT AN END TO HIS MADNESS!

14


BUT AT THAT VERY INSTANT--
POUR IT ON, MEN! WE'VE GOT TO USE ALL THE FIRE-POWER WE HAVE!
THESE NEW, HEAVY-CALIBER RIFLES SHOULD STOP HIM-- BUT THEY DON'T!
PEEOOW
RATATAT
BRATATAT
PEEOOW


THAT CHARACTER IS NEVER LONG ENOUGH IN ONE SPOT TO STOP A SALVO!
SSSKKEEEEEE
POW
POW

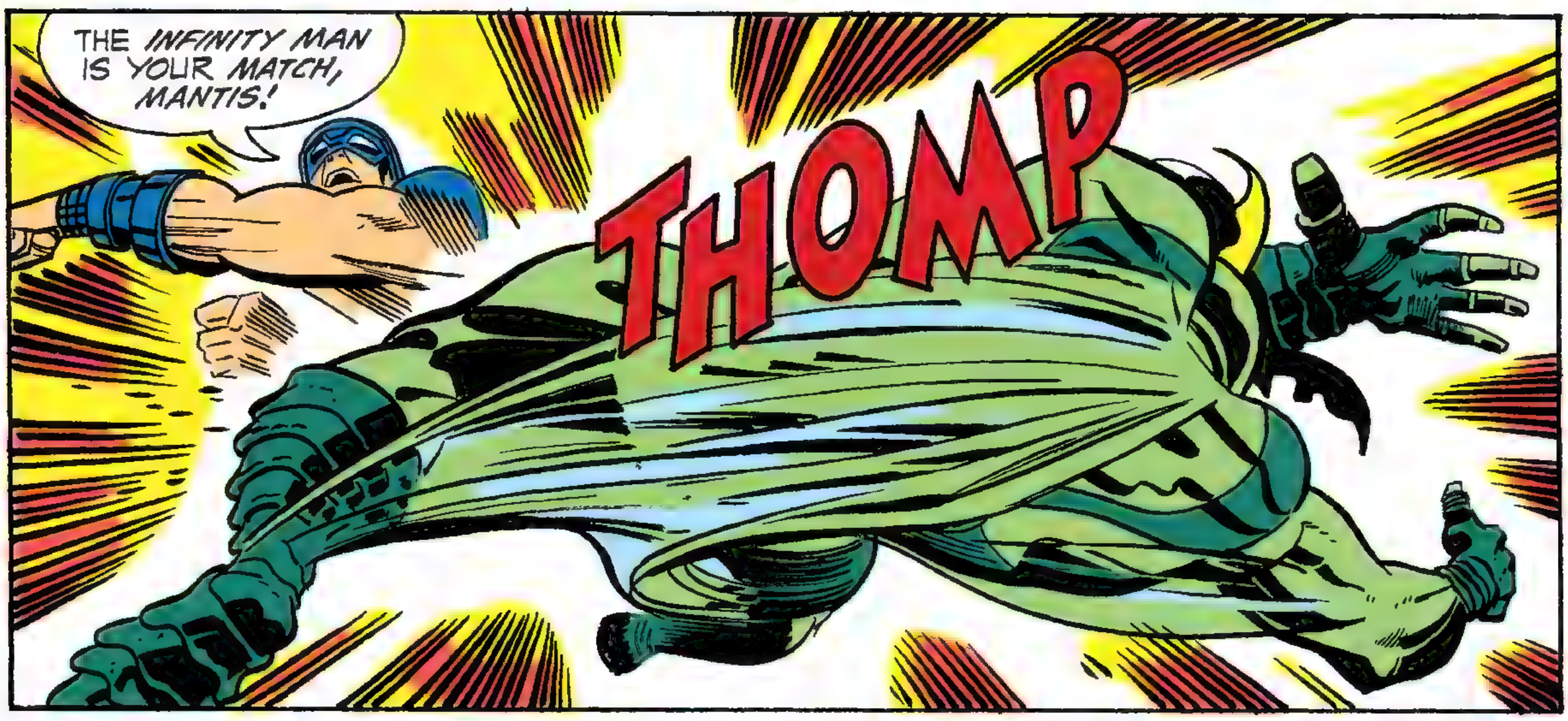

HEAR ME BELOW! MANTIS IS THROUGH PLAYING GAMES!
KAF
KAF
KAF

WITH FRIGHTENING EASE, MANTIS TEARS A LARGE DISPLAY SIGN LOOSE FROM ITS MOORINGS!
LOOK SHARPLY! WHATEVER OBJECT I TOUCH BECOMES A TERMINAL OF DEADLY POWER!

AN INCREDIBLE BURST OF CHARGED ATOMS LEAPS FROM MANTIS TO THE METAL OF THE SIGN! THEN--
THE SIGN IS NOW A WEAPON-- SEETHING WITH FIERY DEATH! SEE FOR YOURSELF! HA HA HA HA HA!
15

FLOOWWAAM
TAKE COVER, MEN!
OUR BEST MARKSMEN ARE GOING INTO ACTION!

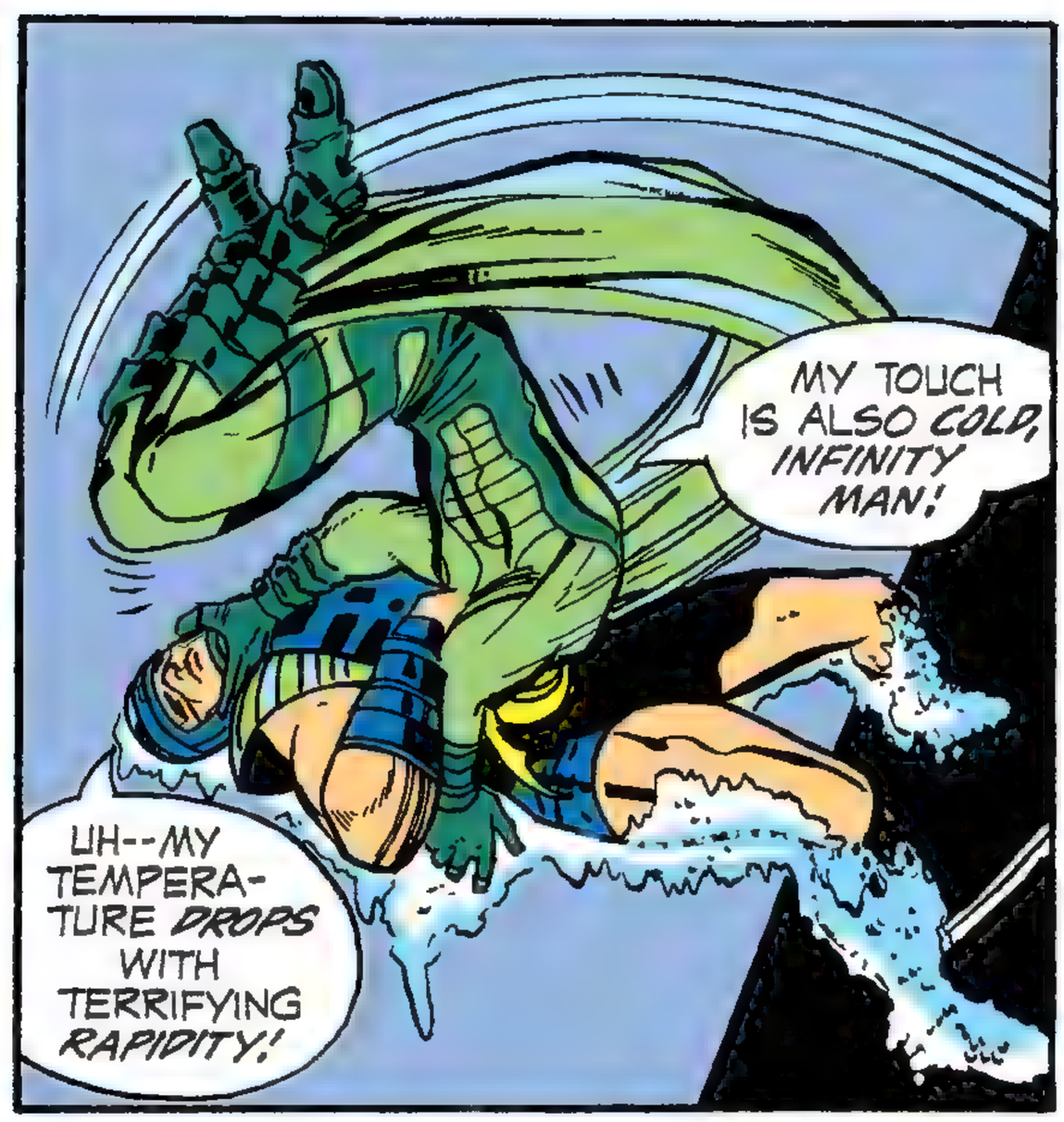
STUBBORN, UNYIELDING MORTALS! AS MY ANGER GROWS, SO SHALL MY ACTS OF TERROR!
YOUR CRIMES END HERE AND NOW!

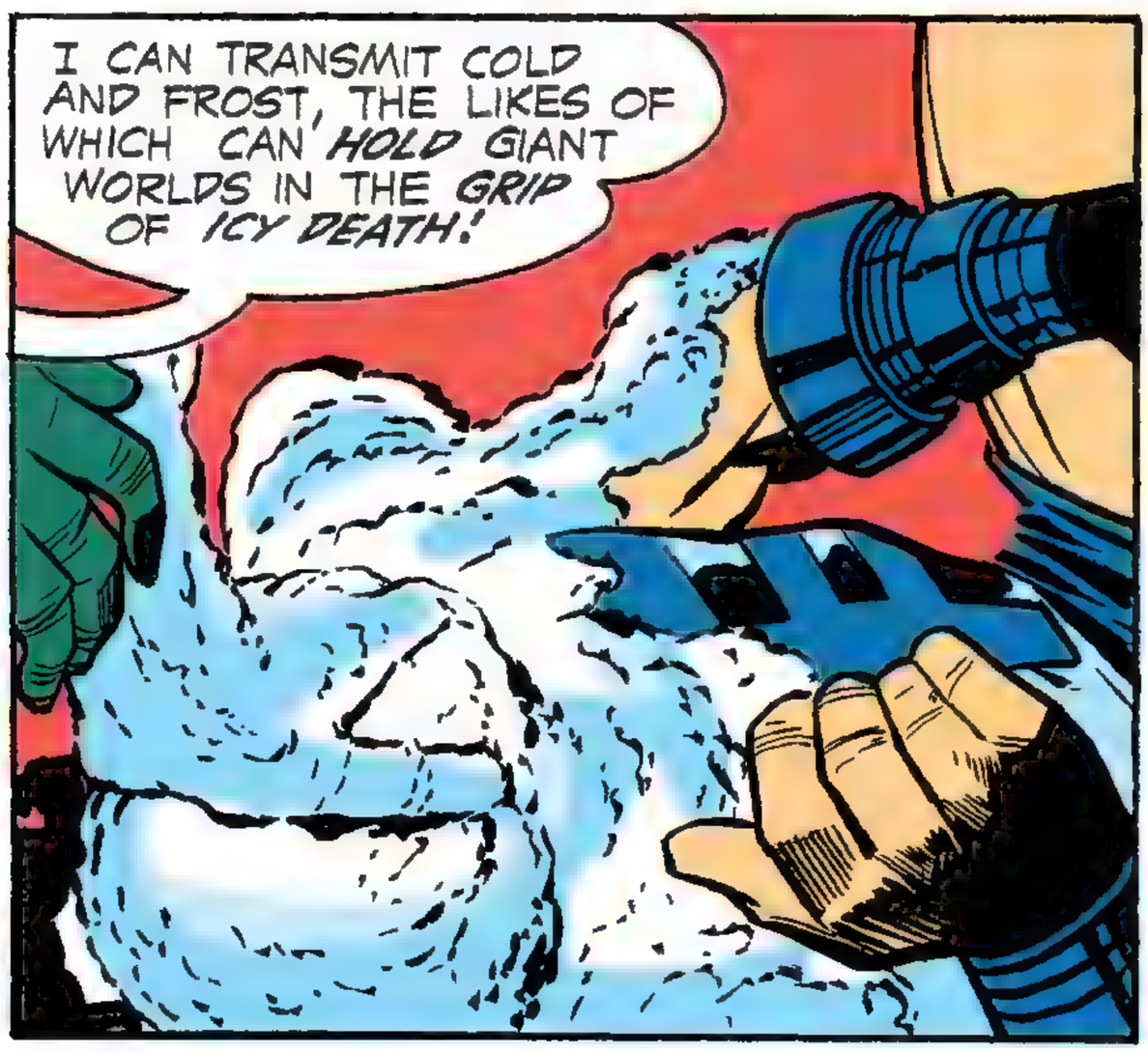

THE INFINITY MAN IS YOUR MATCH, MANTIS!
THOMP

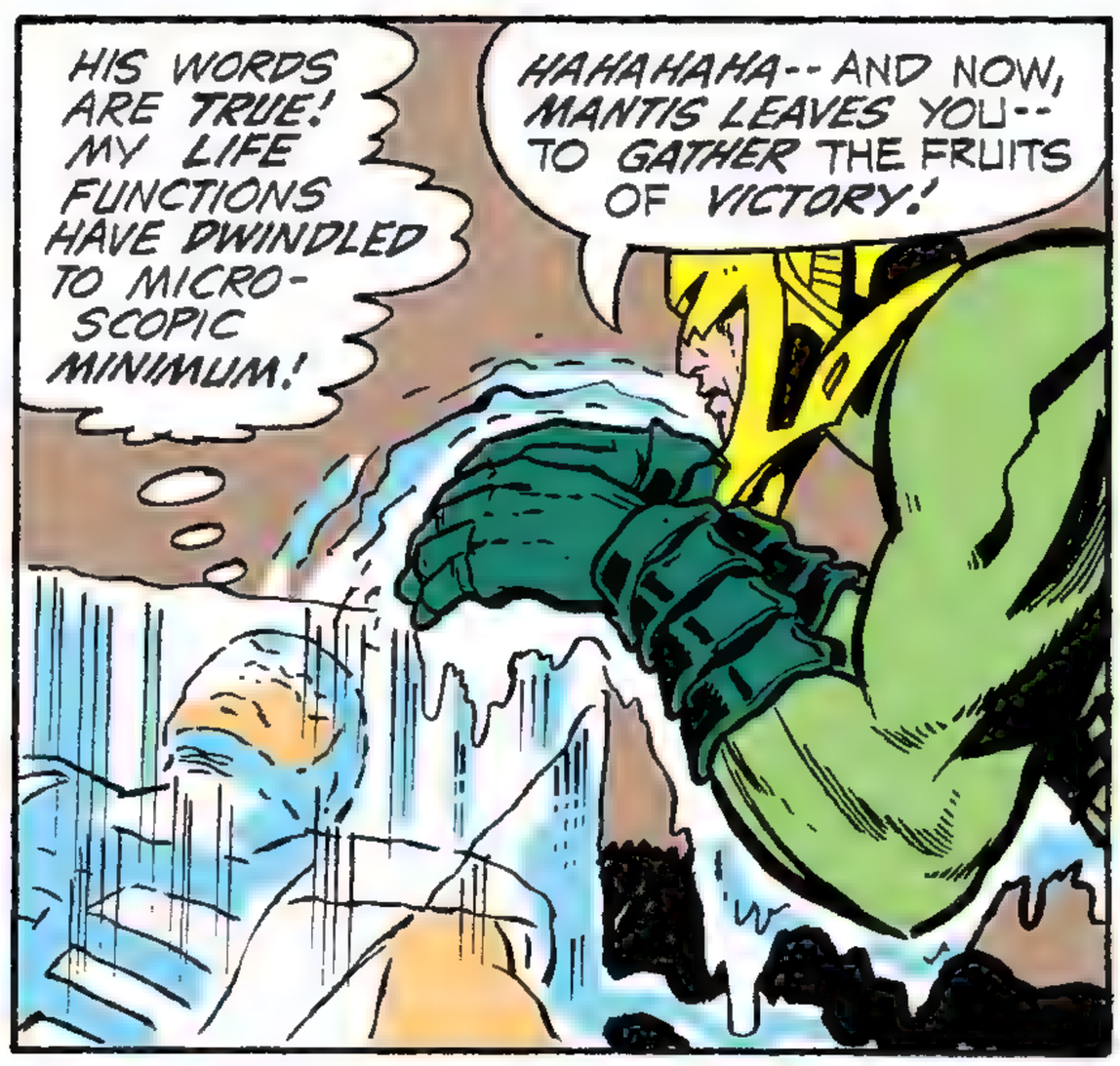
THE FOLLOWING BLOW HURLS MANTIS AGAINST A ROOF WALL...
AAAAAA! NO! NO!
WHAAKK

THUS, THE WALL, CHARGED BY HIS OWN POWER, BLASTS MANTIS OUTWARD!!
BLAAAMM
16

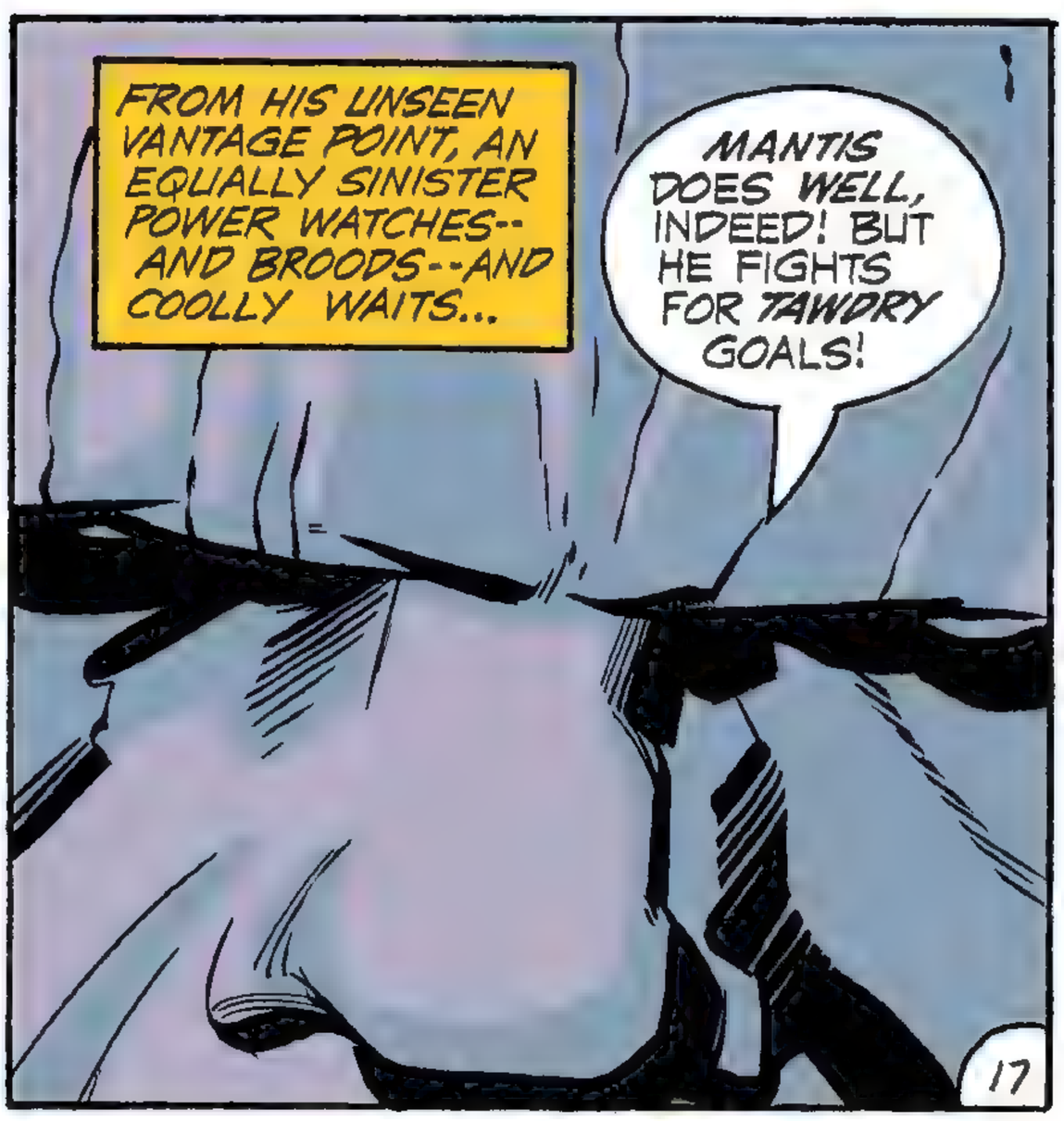
MANTIS ISN'T DEFEATED THAT EASILY!
I RECOVER QUICKLY, INFINITY MAN-- WITH A SPEED AND WEAPON YOU WON'T LIKE!


MY TOUCH IS ALSO COLD, INFINITY MAN!
UH--MY TEMPERA-TURE DROPS WITH TERRIFYING RAPIDITY!


I CAN TRANSMIT COLD AND FROST, THE LIKES OF WHICH CAN HOLD GIANT WORLDS IN THE GRIP OF ICY DEATH!

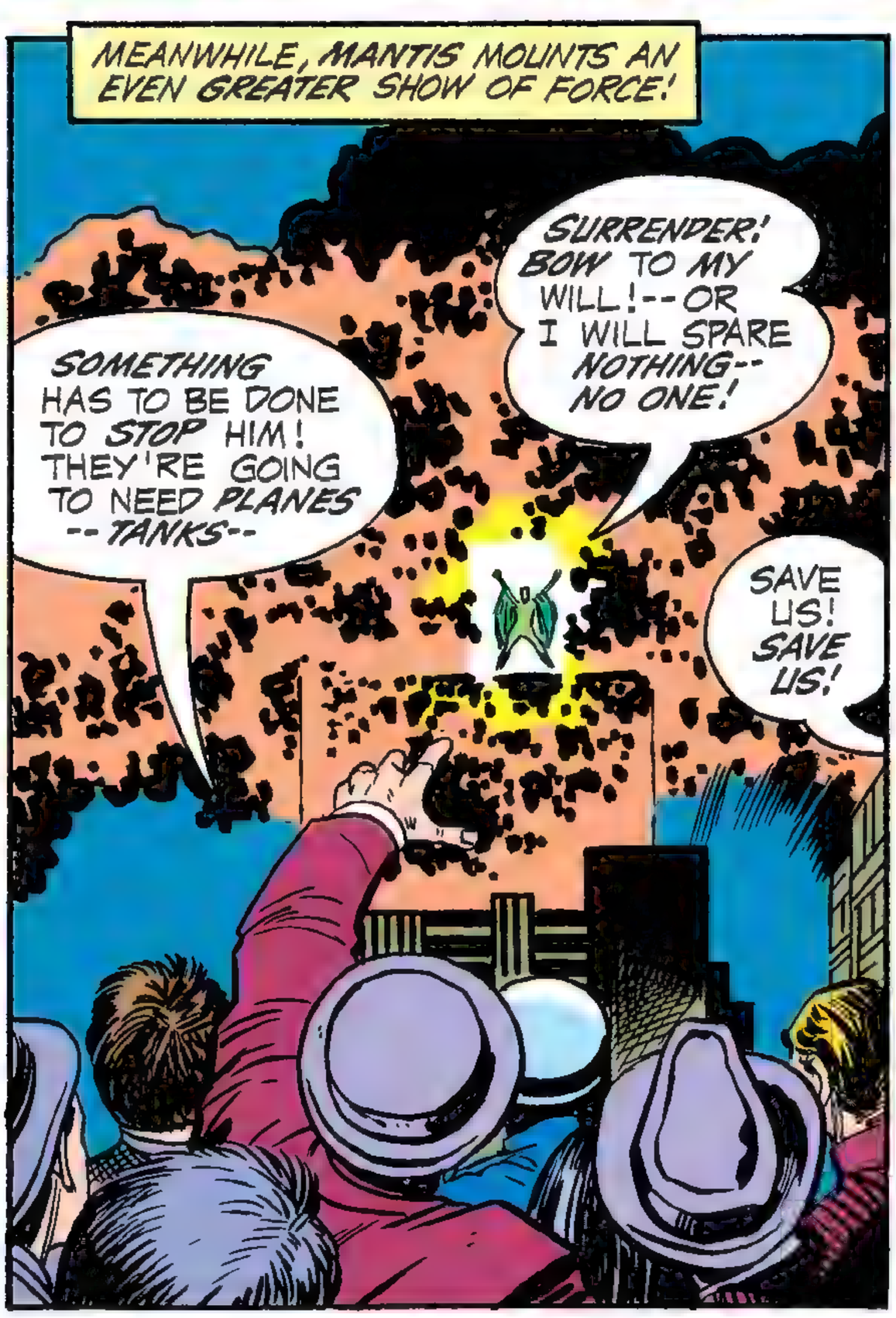

HIS WORDS ARE TRUE! MY LIFE FUNCTIONS HAVE DWINDLED TO MICRO-SCOPIC MINIMUM!
HAHAHAHA--AND NOW, MANTIS LEAVES YOU-- TO GATHER THE FRUITS OF VICTORY!

FIRST, I SHALL BRING THIS CITY TO ITS KNEES!
WHEN MY WORK IS DONE, THE OTHERS WHO WITNESS ITS FATE WILL CAPITULATE WITHOUT RESISTANCE!


FROM HIS UNSEEN VANTAGE POINT, AN EQUALLY SINISTER POWER WATCHES-- AND BROODS--AND COOLLY WAITS...
MANTIS DOES WELL, INDEED! BUT HE FIGHTS FOR TAWDRY GOALS!
17

WHILE I WOULD BE THE MASTER OF ALL THAT EXISTS!
WHAT IS THE CITY'S FEAR QUOTIENT, NOW, DESAAD!
SPIRALLING TO A LOVELY HIGH PITCH, O DARKSEID! I CAN FEEL THEM--LIKE CRASHING SURF--WONDERFUL WAVES OF RAW FEAR!

MANTIS IS INSPIRING GREAT RESULTS! HE'LL SHAKE EVERY MIND IN THAT CITY TO ITS VERY ROOTS!
ESPECIALLY THE MIND WE SEEK TO CONTACT--THE ONE THAT MUST BE MADE TO YIELD ITS SECRET--THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!

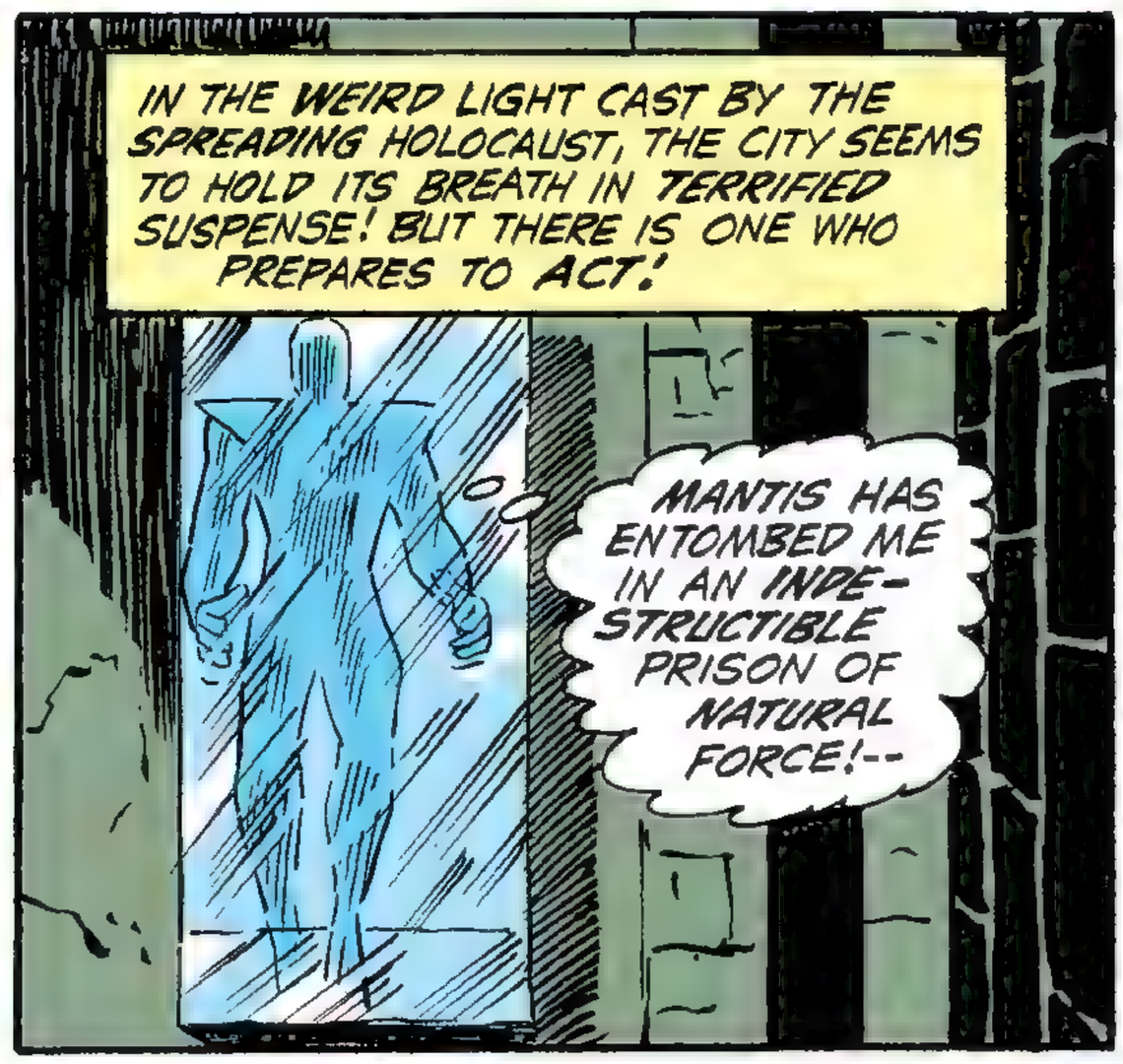

MEANWHILE, MANTIS MOUNTS AN EVEN GREATER SHOW OF FORCE!
SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE TO STOP HIM! THEY'RE GOING TO NEED PLANES --TANKS--
SURRENDER! BOW TO MY WILL!--OR I WILL SPARE NOTHING--NO ONE!
SAVE US! SAVE US!

VERY WELL! PERHAPS THE THERMAL TOUCH WILL ADD MORE CRACKS TO YOUR CRUMBLING BRAVADO!
SEE HOW STEEL AND CONCRETE TURN TO RIVERS OF FLOWING HEAT!
18

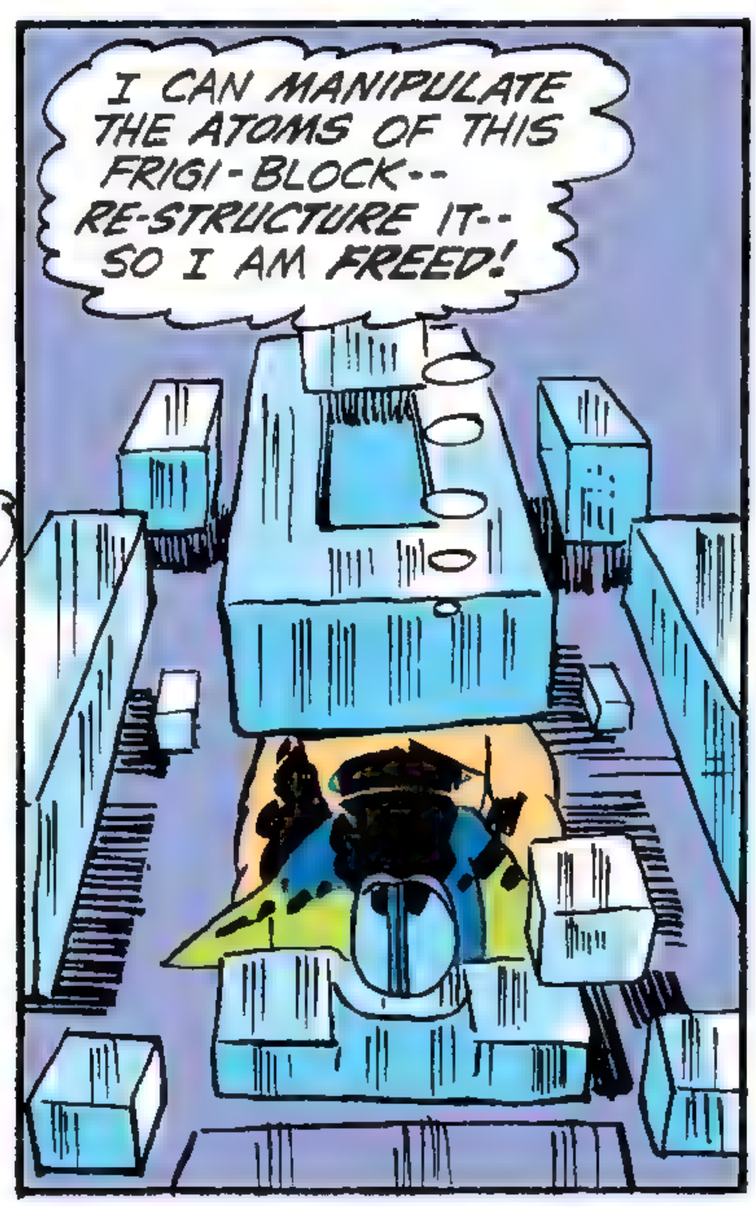
THEY COURSE DOWN YOUR PROUD STRUCTURES, AND CUT WHITE-HOT TRAILS IN YOUR STREETS!
SSSSSSSS

AN EMPTY VEHICLE OF GREAT TONNAGE LIES IN THEIR PATH! SEE HOW IT FLARES!
WAAHOMM

SURRENDER! YIELD TO MANTIS! SHOW YOUR WORLD HOW TO SEEK MERCY FROM YOUR NEW RULER!


IN THE WEIRD LIGHT CAST BY THE SPREADING HOLOCAUST, THE CITY SEEMS TO HOLD ITS BREATH IN TERRIFIED SUSPENSE! BUT THERE IS ONE WHO PREPARES TO ACT!
MANTIS HAS ENTOMBED ME IN AN INDE-STRUCTIBLE PRISON OF NATURAL FORCE!--

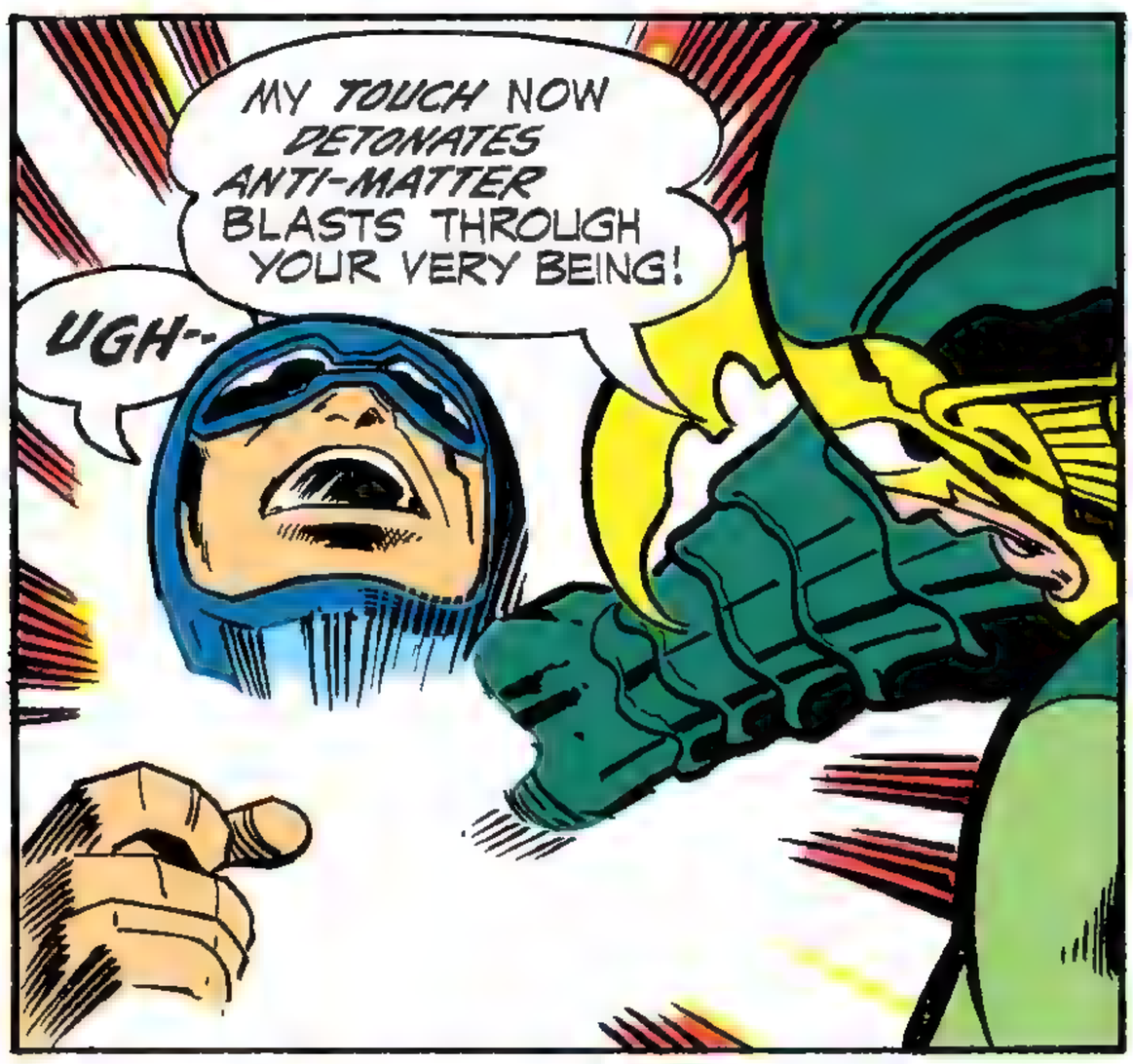
BUT I CALL UPON POWERS GAINED IN DISTANT REGIONS-- WHERE NATURAL LAWS DO NOT APPLY!
I'VE NOW MARSHALLED SUFFICIENT STRENGTH TO USE THEM!


I CAN MANIPULATE THE ATOMS OF THIS FRIGI-BLOCK-- RE-STRUCTURE IT-- SO I AM FREED!

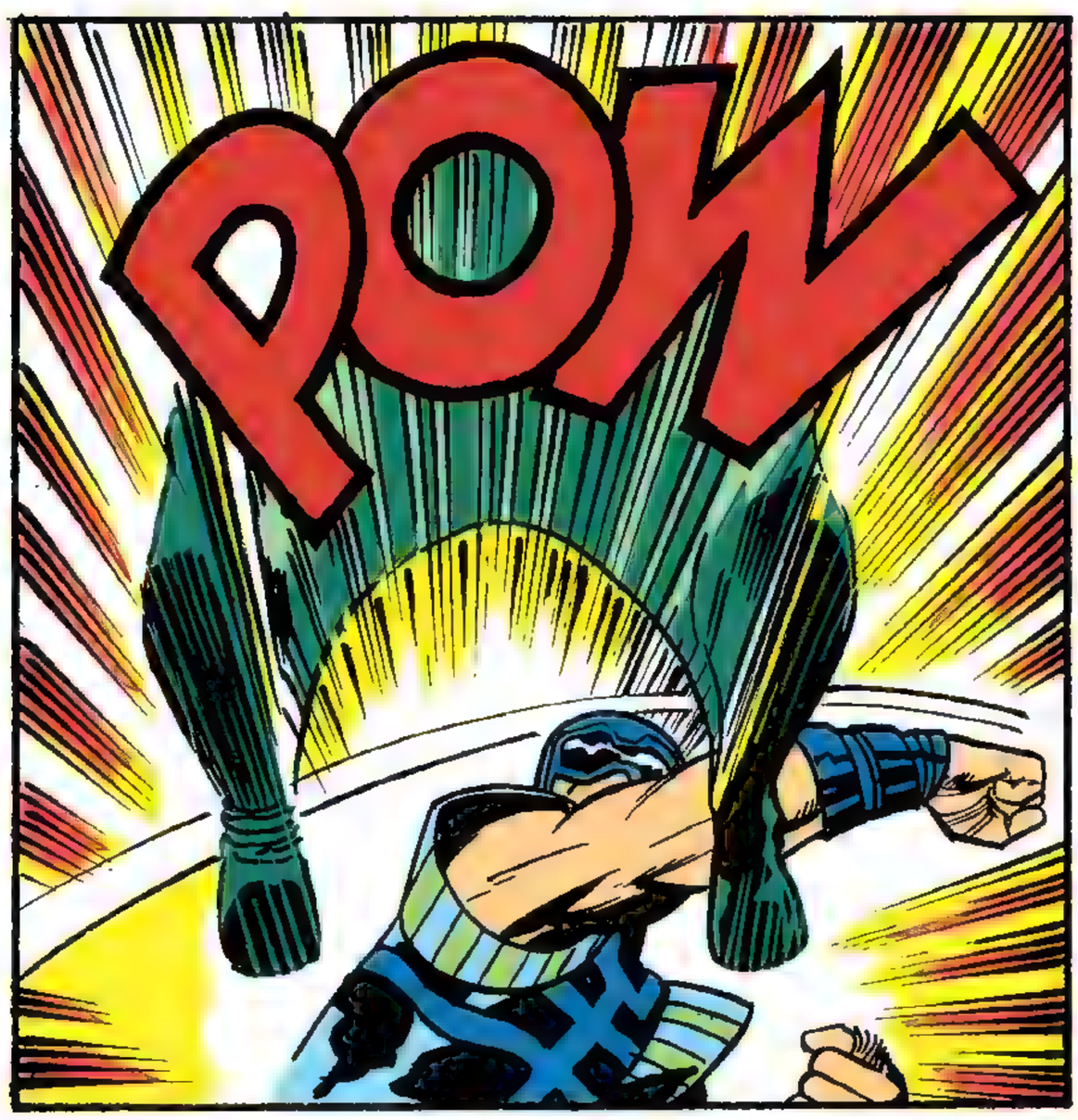
AND NOW, MANTIS--
YOUR VICTORY IS FAR FROM WON!
19

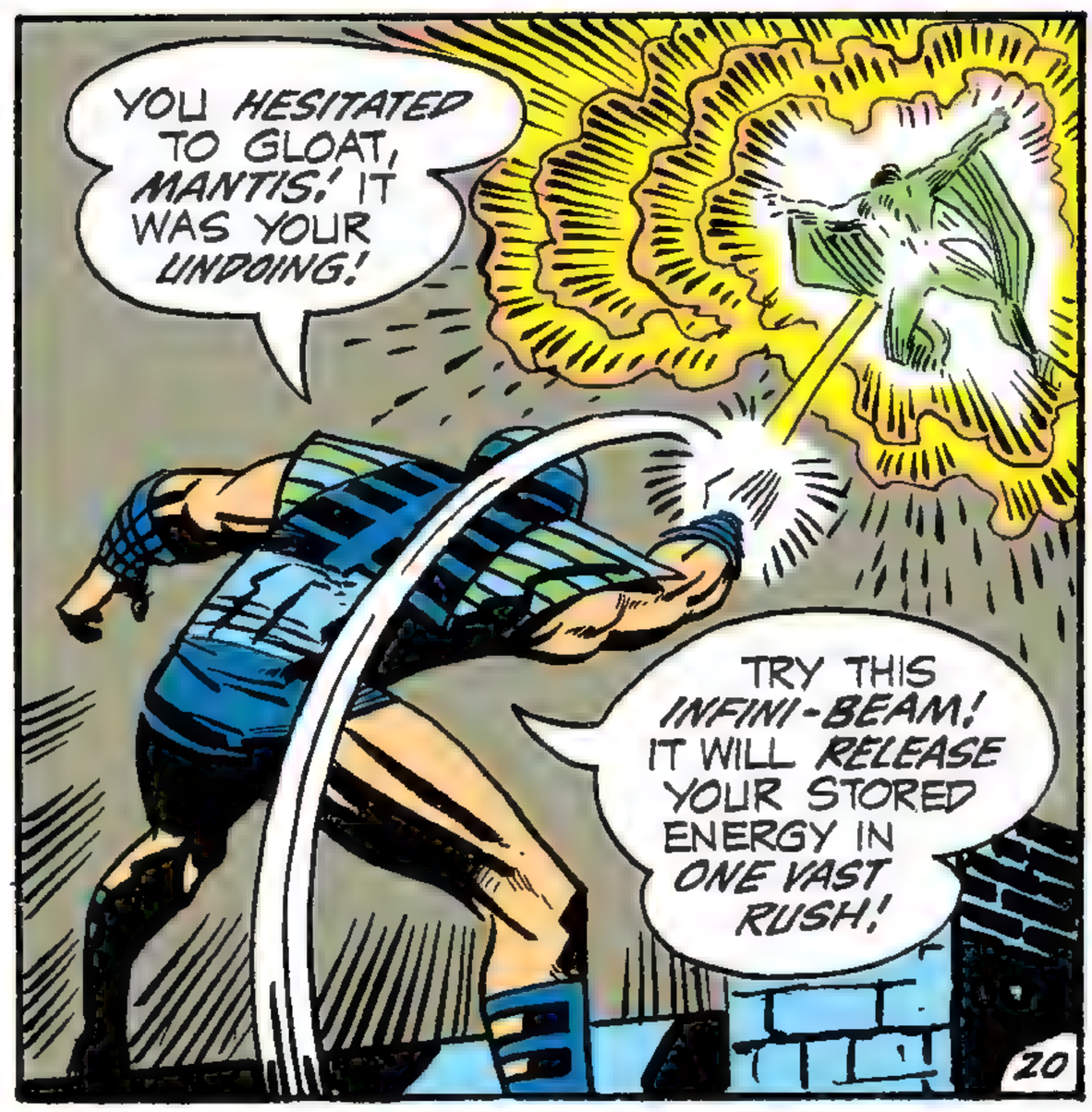
GIVE BATTLE, YOU FIEND OF THE DEEPEST PITS! YOUR MOMENT OF TRIUMPH IS NOT YET RIPE!
MY PATIENCE IS AT AN END! FIRST I SHALL DESTROY THIS CITY!--

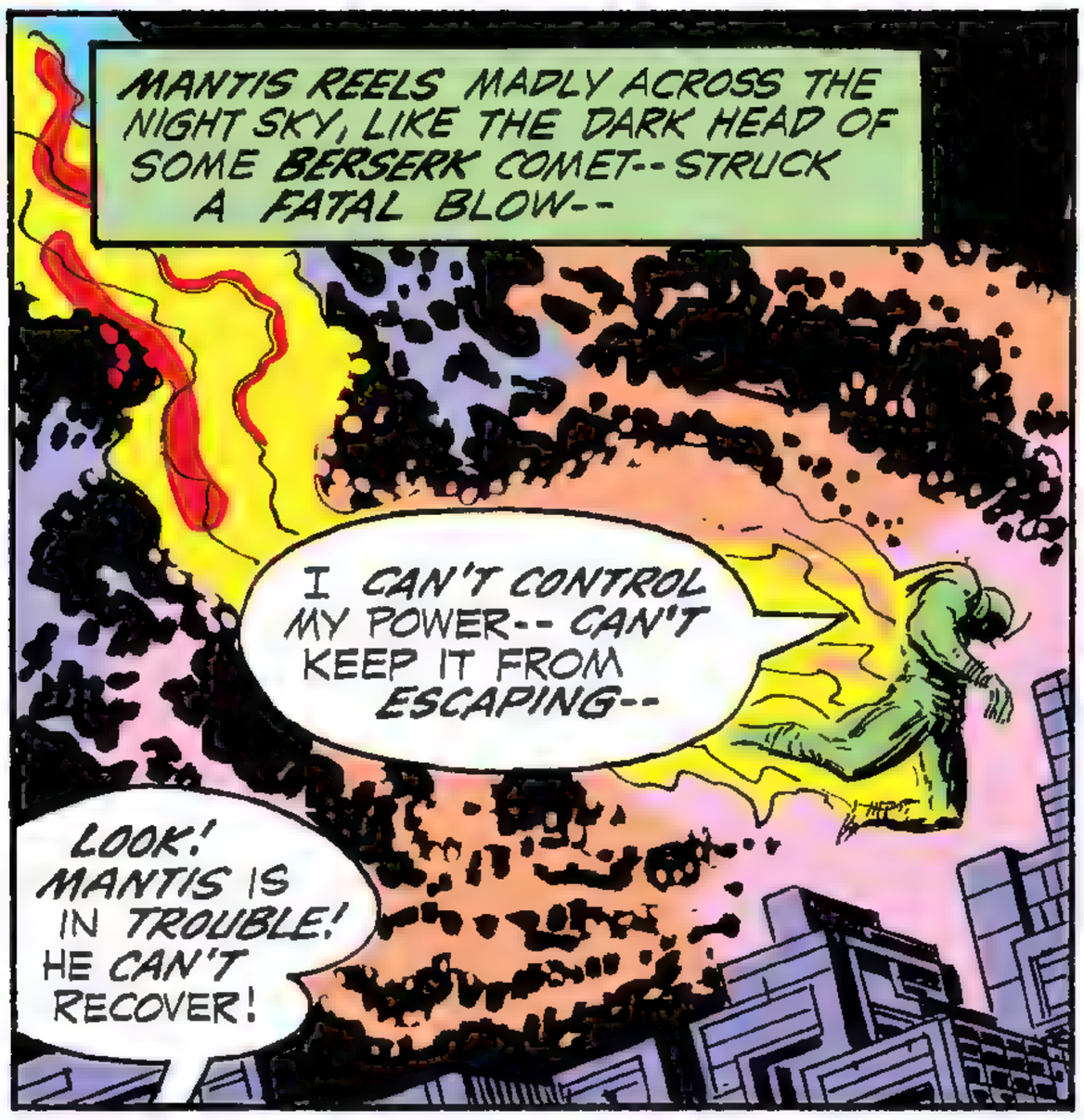
FIRST YOU SHALL ANSWER TO ME! STAND AND FIGHT!
THEN HAVE IT YOUR WAY-- INFINITY MAN!


MY TOUCH NOW DETONATES ANTI-MATTER BLASTS THROUGH YOUR VERY BEING!
UGH--

IT'S ENOUGH TO SHATTER STAR SYSTEMS!
BUT ONE OF YOUR POWERS NEEDS A GREATER, MORE LETHAL CHARGE!

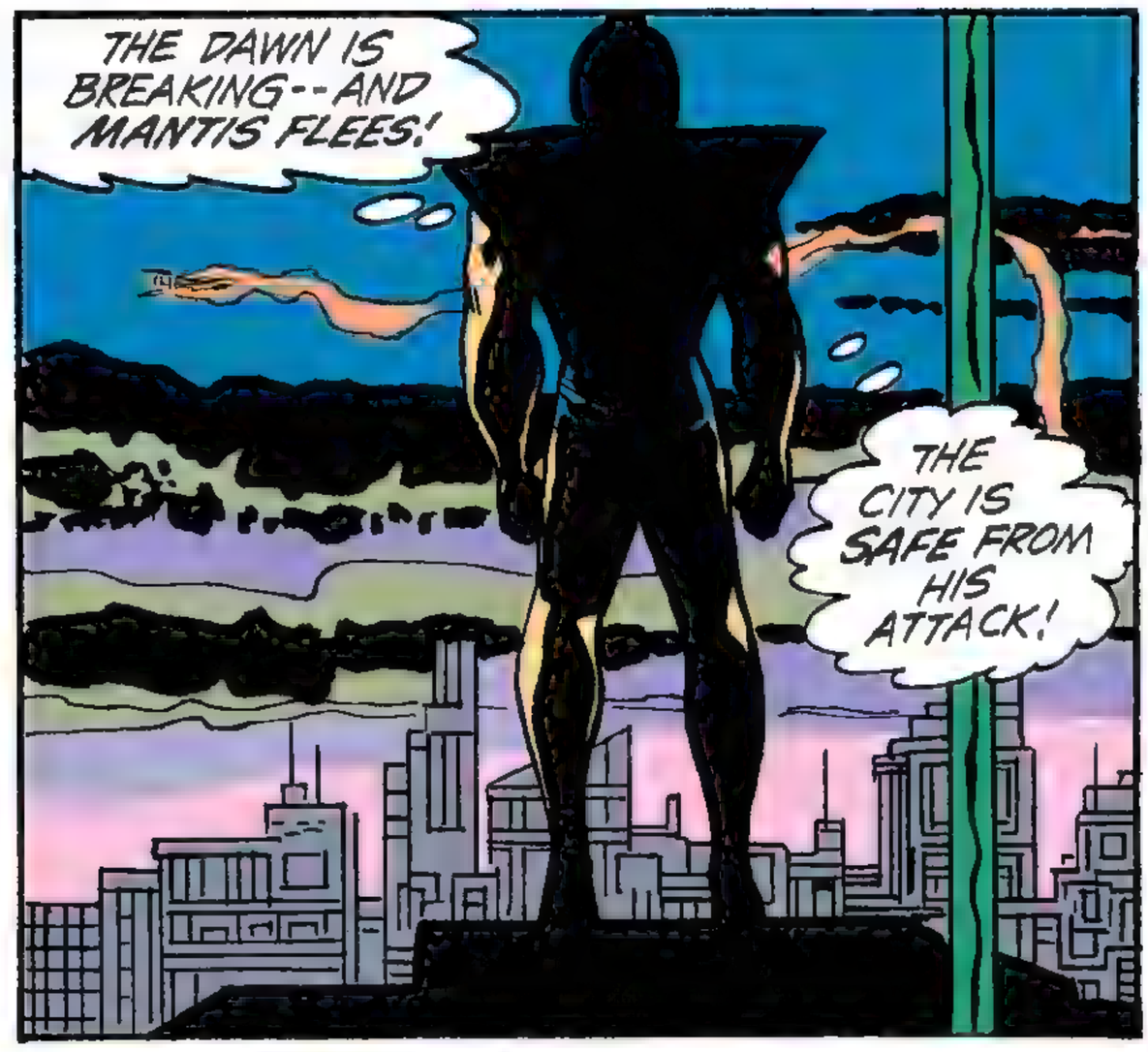

POW


YOU HESITATED TO GLOAT, MANTIS! IT WAS YOUR UNDOING!
TRY THIS INFINI-BEAM! IT WILL RELEASE YOUR STORED ENERGY IN ONE VAST RUSH!
20


MANTIS REELS MADLY ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY, LIKE THE DARK HEAD OF SOME BERSERK COMET-- STRUCK A FATAL BLOW--
I CAN'T CONTROL MY POWER-- CAN'T KEEP IT FROM ESCAPING--
LOOK! MANTIS IS IN TROUBLE! HE CAN'T RECOVER!

MY ENERGY HAS DRAINED TO DANGER LEVEL-- I'M GROWING WEAK--WEAK--
I SHALL BE HELPLESS BEFORE MY ENEMIES--
WE'RE SAVED! THE LAW IS CLOSING IN ON HIM!

--MUST USE WHAT POWER I HAVE LEFT TO RETURN TO MY POWER-POD!


THE DAWN IS BREAKING--AND MANTIS FLEES!
THE CITY IS SAFE FROM HIS ATTACK!

THOSE WHO SUMMONED THE INFINITY MAN-- MUST NOW REPLACE HIM!

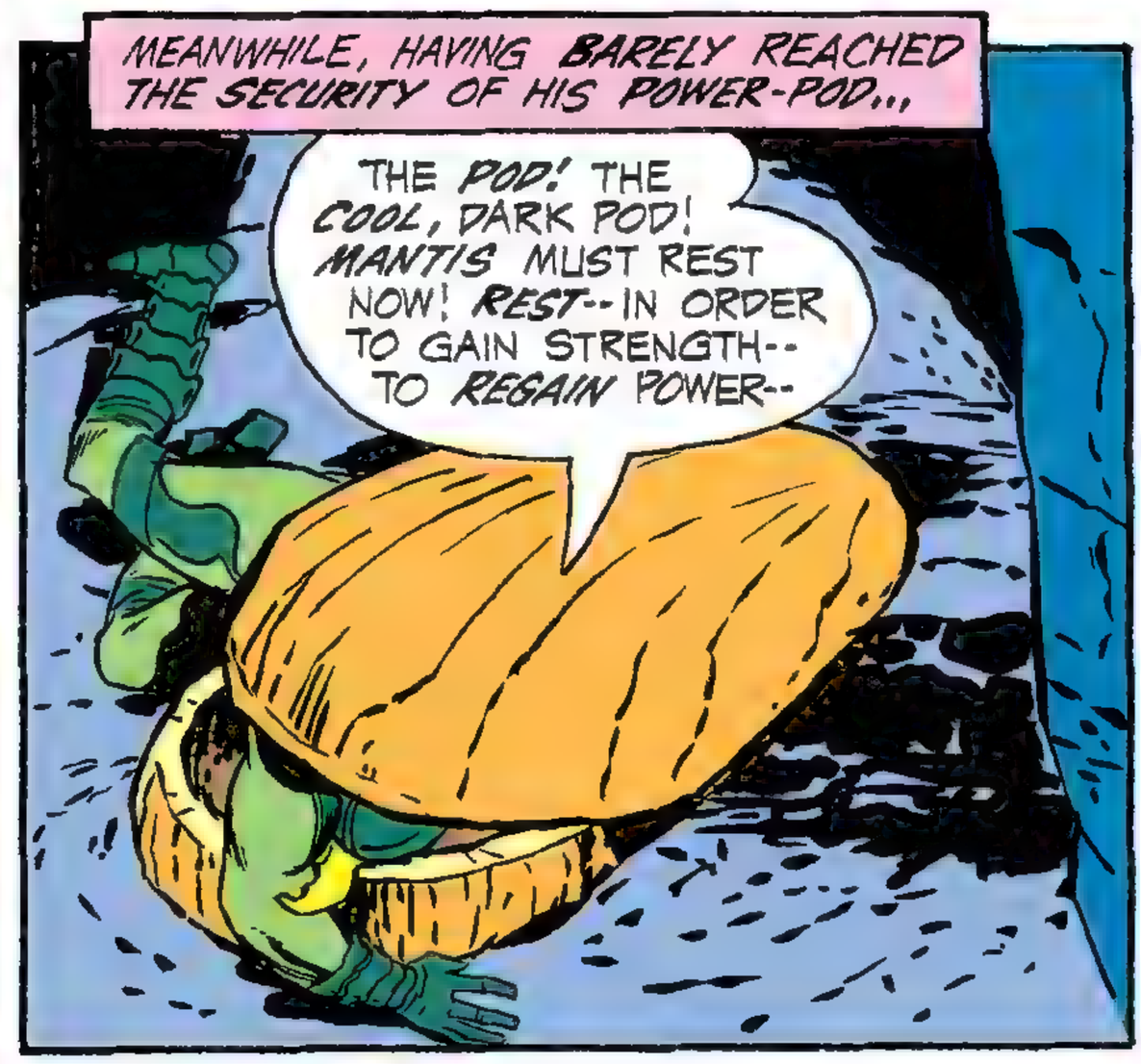
FWOW

WOW! HE'S GONE--AND WE'VE COME BACK--
BUT WE WERE ONE--AND SO, SHARED HIS EXPERIENCE!
21

IT IS WAR IN EARNEST, NOW! --AND EARTH IS THE BATTLE-GROUND FOR TWO GREAT FORCES!
WHERE SHALL FATE LEAD HER-- TO NEW GENESIS -- OR APOKOLIPS!

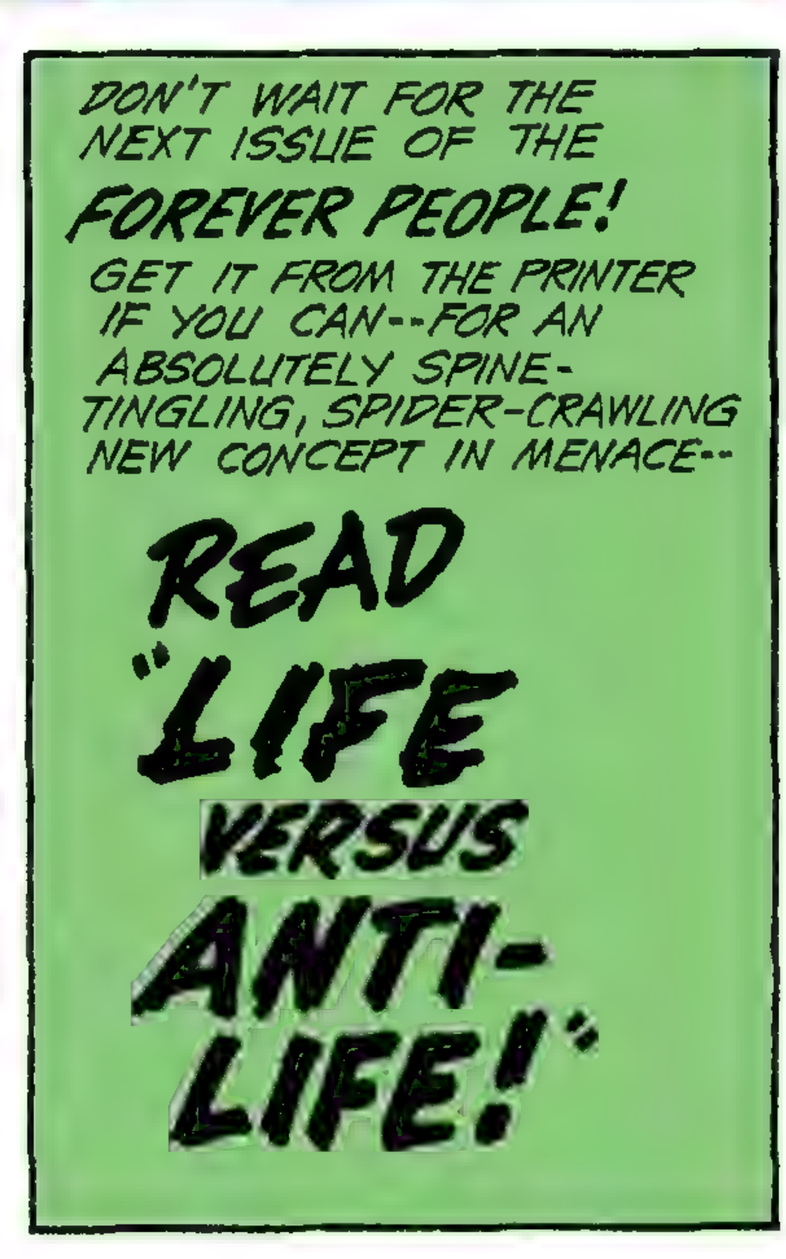
MANTIS WANTS ONLY THE EGO POWER OF THE CONQUEROR!
BUT IT'S DARKSEID THE UNIVERSE MUST TRULY FEAR!
HE WANTS THE ULTIMATE POWER!

AND IT IS HERE--ON EARTH--IN THE MIND OF SOME-ONE NAMELESS--
THE ABILITY TO SOLVE--AND PUT INTO ACTION --THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!


MEANWHILE, HAVING BARELY REACHED THE SECURITY OF HIS POWER-POD...
THE POD! THE COOL, DARK POD! MANTIS MUST REST NOW! REST--IN ORDER TO GAIN STRENGTH-- TO REGAIN POWER--

FROM THE SHADOWS OF THE DEEP CRYPT A FIGURE, BROODING MENACE, DETACHES ITSELF...
MANTIS FIGHTS HARD--AND FAILS HARD--
HE CANNOT LEARN TO PLAN!

BUT DARKSEID WAITS LIKE SILENT STONE... WAITS AND PLANS TO FLUSH HIS PRIZE FROM ITS COVER, DESAAD--
AND, IF YOU WOULD WREST THE SECRET FROM HIM-- GIVE HIM-- TO ME!
22


DON'T WAIT FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE
FOREVER PEOPLE!
GET IT FROM THE PRINTER IF YOU CAN--FOR AN ABSOLUTELY SPINE-TINGLING, SPIDER-CRAWLING NEW CONCEPT IN MENACE--
READ "LIFE VERSUS ANTI-LIFE!"

DC THE FOREVER PEOPLE

THEY BELIEVE! THEY JUDGE! THEY KILL!

BEWARE OF THE JUSTIFIERS

THEIR NEXT VICTIM MAY BE YOU!--OR

FOREVER PEOPLE

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

JULY

NO. 3

30160

LIVE BY MY RULES-- OR DIE!

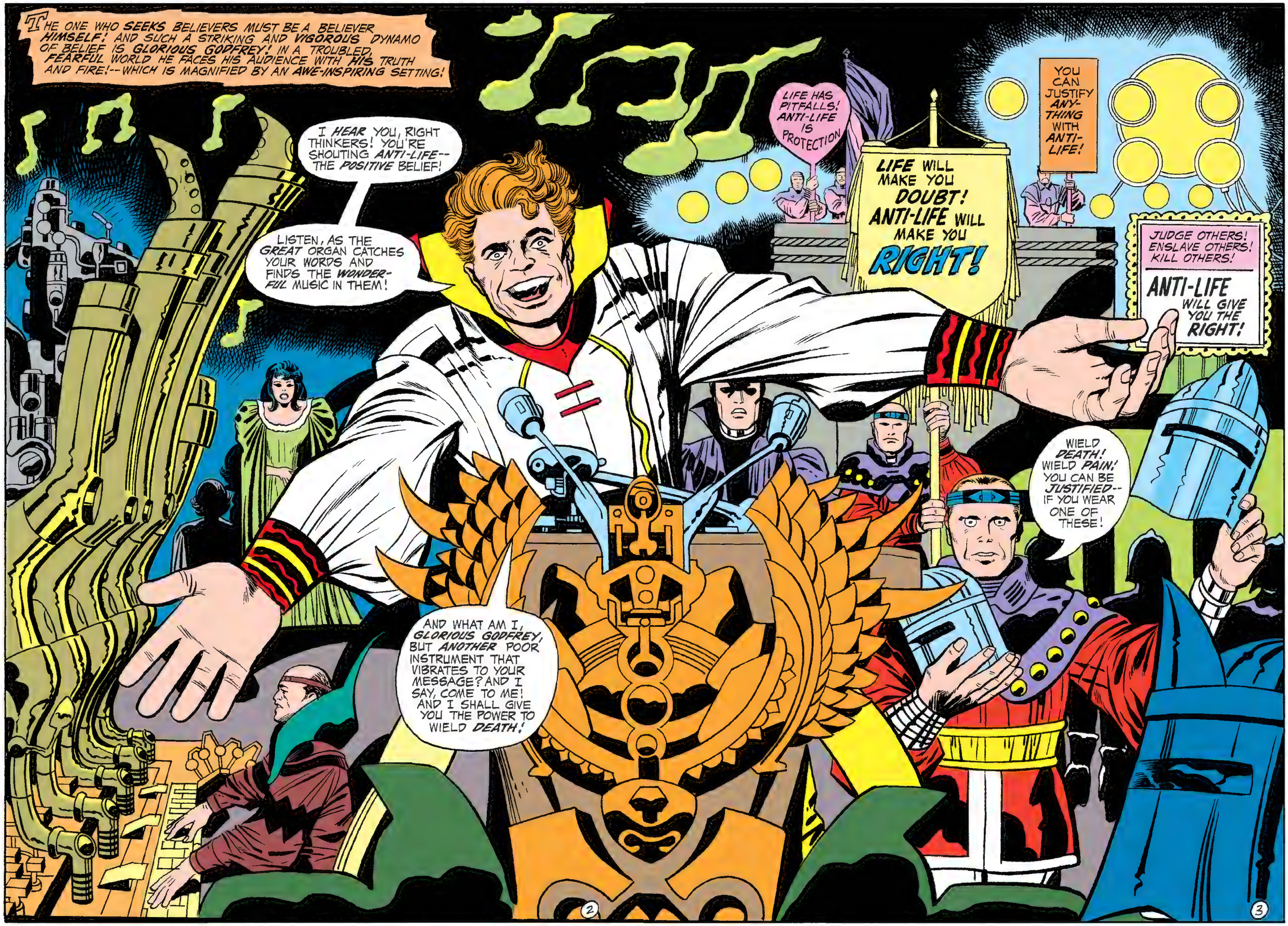
IT'S THE BRAINCHILD OF GLORIOUS GODFREY

IF YOU FEAR LIFE

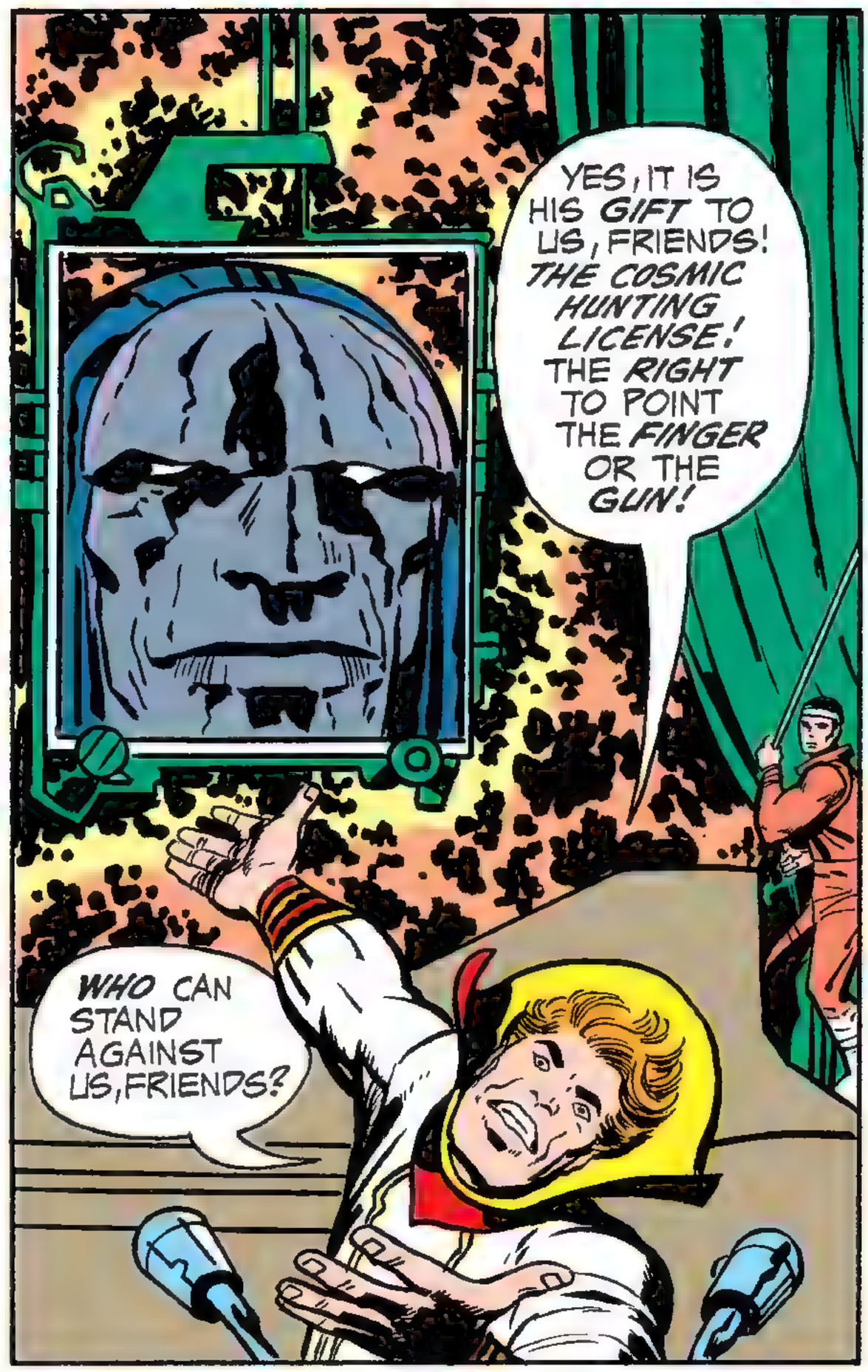
GODFREY WILL SAVE YOU WITH--

ANTI-LIFE!

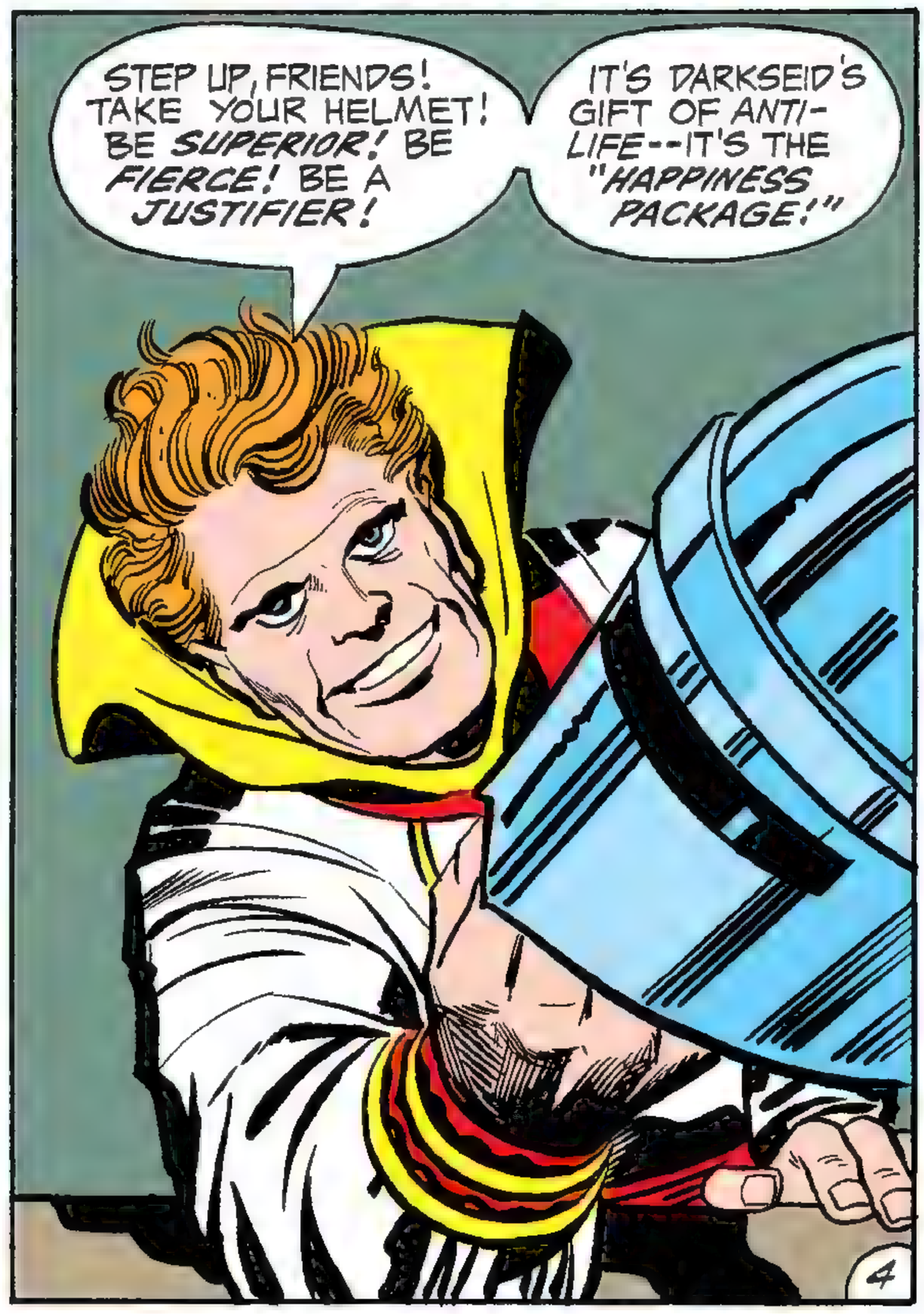
"THAT IS THE GREAT THING ABOUT OUR MOVEMENT--THAT THESE MEMBERS ARE UNIFORM NOT ONLY IN IDEAS, BUT, EVEN, THE FACIAL EXPRESSION IS ALMOST THE SAME!"--ADOLF HITLER
YESSIR! IT'S THE TRUTH! GLORIOUS GODFREY IS SPEAKING THE TRUTH!
HE'S VOICING WHAT'S IN OUR HEARTS!
TELL IT, GODFREY! TELL US HOW OUR PRIDE IS BEING ATTACKED AND DRAGGED IN THE DUST!
IT'S THE OTHERS, GODFREY! THOSE WHO DON'T THINK RIGHT!
THIS IS OUR WORLD! OUR WORLD! THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO MEDDLE WITH IT!
X-140


THE ONE WHO SEEKS BELIEVERS MUST BE A BELIEVER HIMSELF! AND SUCH A STRIKING AND VIGOROUS DYNAMO OF BELIEF IS GLORIOUS GODFREY! IN A TROUBLED, FEARFUL WORLD HE FACES HIS AUDIENCE WITH HIS TRUTH AND FIRE!--WHICH IS MAGNIFIED BY AN AWE-INSPIRING SETTING!
I HEAR YOU, RIGHT THINKERS! YOU'RE SHOUTING ANTI-LIFE-- THE POSITIVE BELIEF!
LISTEN, AS THE GREAT ORGAN CATCHES YOUR WORDS AND FINDS THE WONDERFUL MUSIC IN THEM!
LIFE HAS PITFALLS! ANTI-LIFE IS PROTECTION
LIFE WILL MAKE YOU DOUBT! ANTI-LIFE WILL MAKE YOU RIGHT!
YOU CAN JUSTIFY ANYTHING WITH ANTI-LIFE!
JUDGE OTHERS! ENSLAVE OTHERS! KILL OTHERS!
ANTI-LIFE WILL GIVE YOU THE RIGHT!
AND WHAT AM I, GLORIOUS GODFREY, BUT ANOTHER POOR INSTRUMENT THAT VIBRATES TO YOUR MESSAGE? AND I SAY, COME TO ME! AND I SHALL GIVE YOU THE POWER TO WIELD DEATH!
WIELD DEATH! WIELD PAIN! YOU CAN BE JUSTIFIED-- IF YOU WEAR ONE OF THESE!
2
3

YES, FRIENDS! THOUGH *LIFE* IS EVER FILLED WITH THOSE WHO THREATEN US, IT IS *ANTI-LIFE* WHICH GIVES US THE POWER TO *ELIMINATE* THEM!
THE *HOLOCAUST* IS COMING! THE DAY OF *APOKOLIPS* ON EARTH! *THE DAY OF DARKSEID,* WHO BRINGS THIS POWER FOR ONLY *US* TO USE!

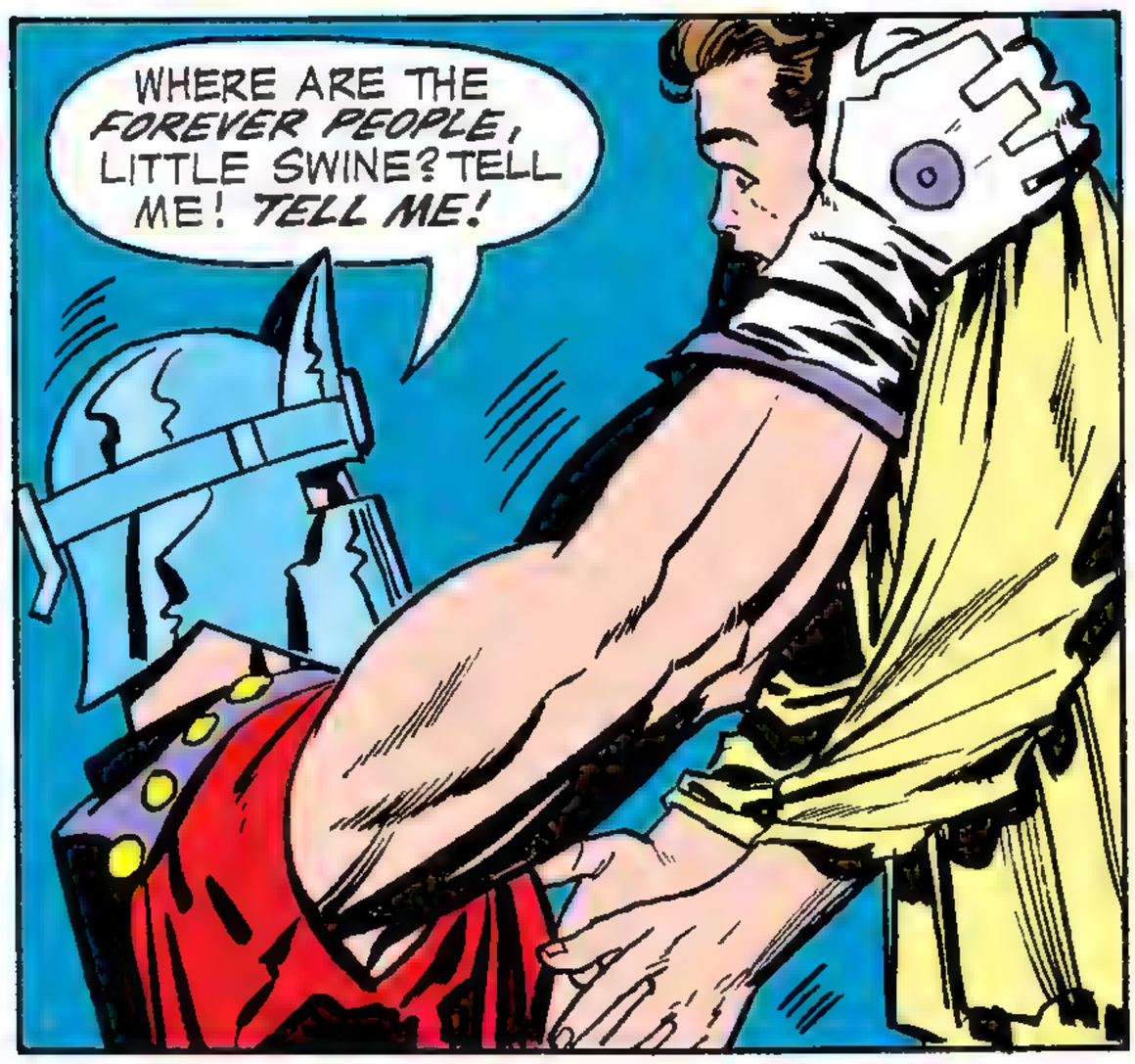

YES, IT IS HIS *GIFT* TO US, FRIENDS! *THE COSMIC HUNTING LICENSE!* THE *RIGHT* TO POINT THE *FINGER* OR THE *GUN!*
WHO CAN STAND AGAINST US, FRIENDS?

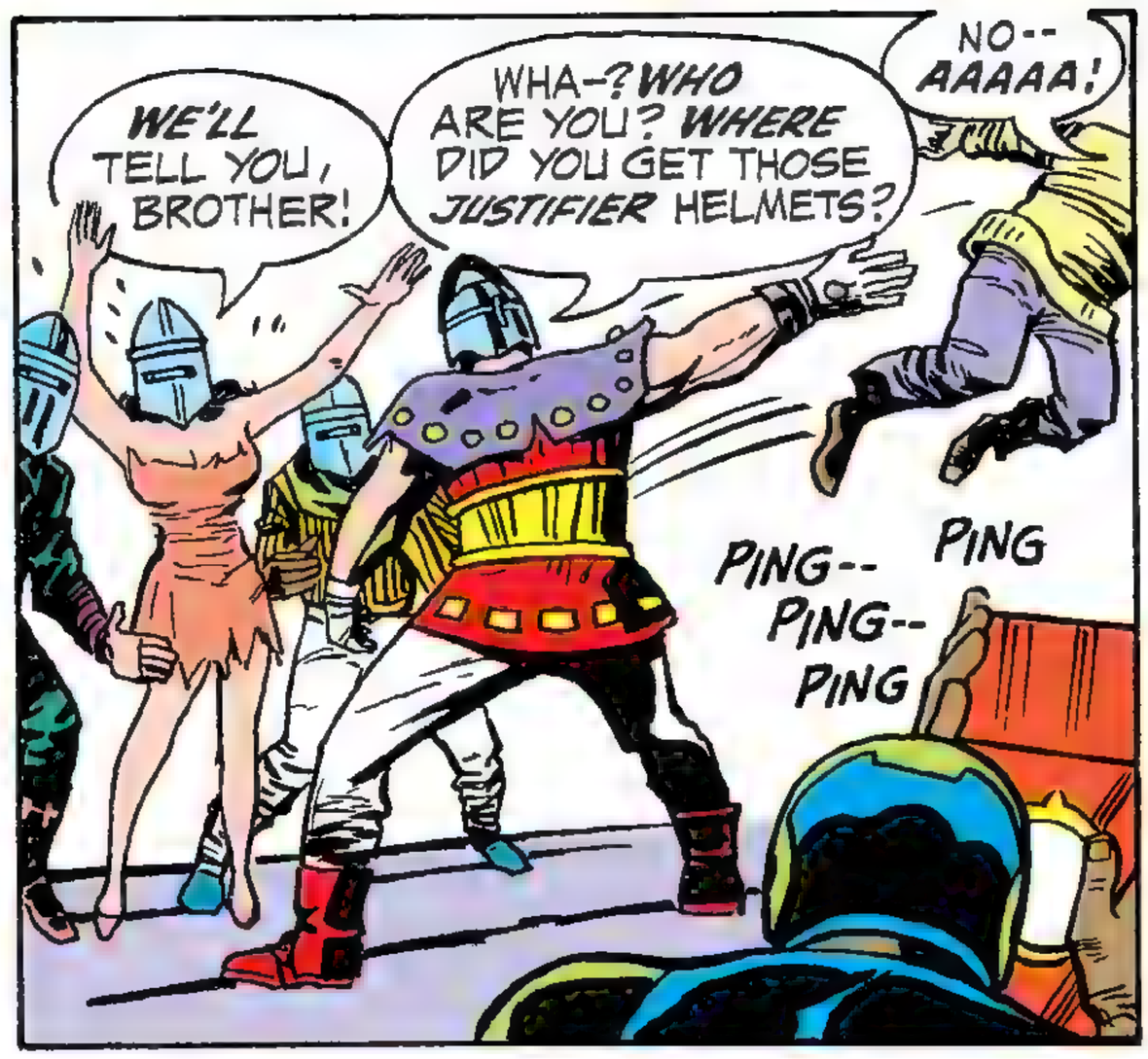
CERTAINLY *NOT* THE OTHERS! THEY CAN BE *RECOGNIZED* FOR WHAT THEY ARE! BUT NOT US, FRIENDS, *NOT US!*
WHEN WE WEAR THIS HELMET, WE FEEL *UNIFIED! GLORIFIED! JUSTIFIED!*

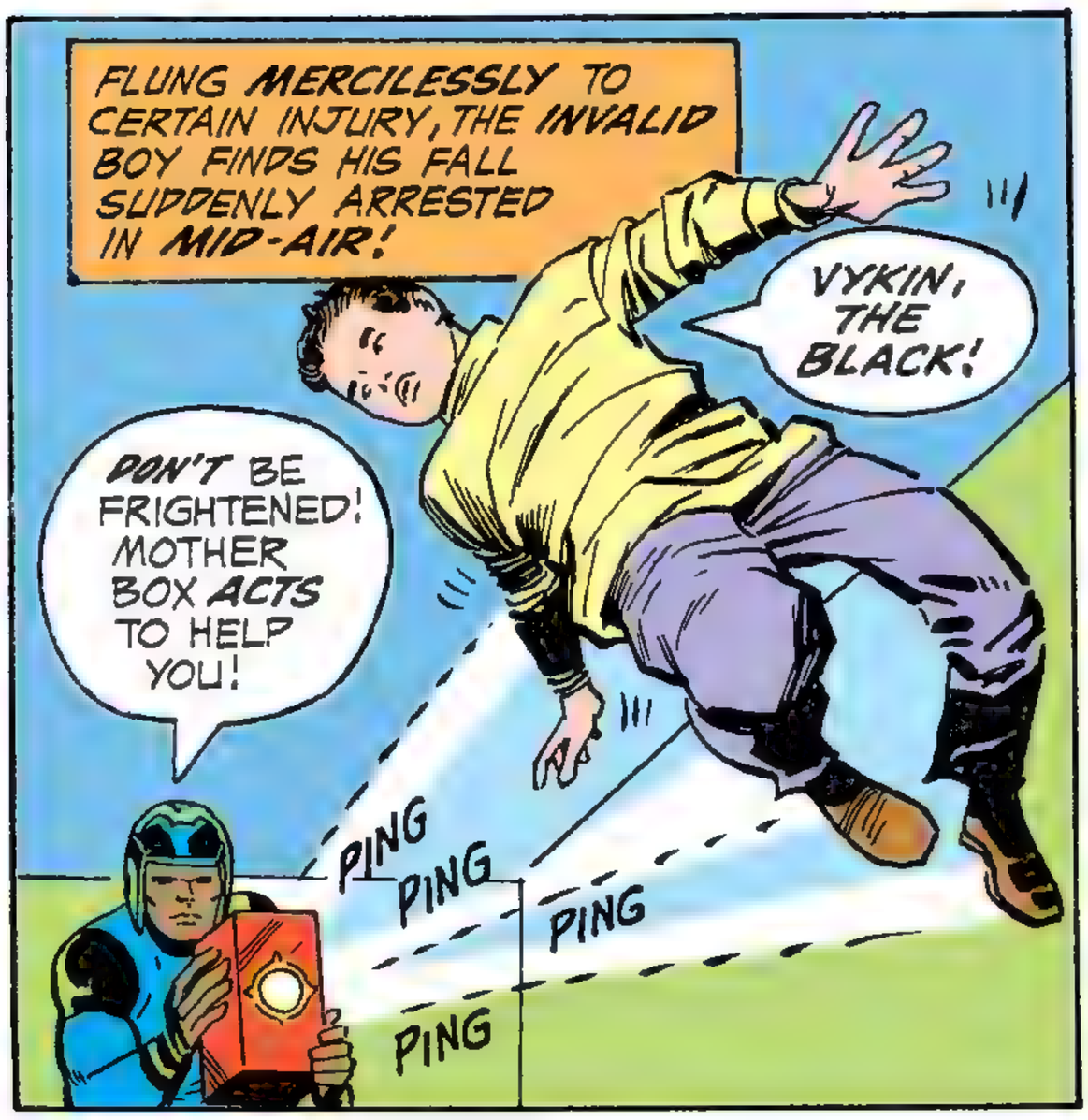

STEP UP, FRIENDS! TAKE YOUR HELMET! BE *SUPERIOR!* BE *FIERCE!* BE A *JUSTIFIER!*
IT'S DARKSEID'S GIFT OF ANTI-LIFE--IT'S THE "*HAPPINESS PACKAGE!*"
4

THUS, APOKOLIPS MAKES CONTACT WITH EARTH! THUS, THE HARBINGERS OF HOLOCAUST LINK UP WITH THE HUMAN MINDS AND HEARTS THAT WAIT TO ACT IN CHAOS! LIKE THE ANCIENT WITCHDOCTORS OF OLD, GLORIOUS GODFREY SOUNDS THE CLARION CALL AND BEGINS THE DANCE OF DEATH IN MODERN TIMES! THE MESSAGE OF ANTI-LIFE IS POWERFUL!--AND ITS DISCIPLES MUST STRIKE FIRST AT THE--
Read
LIFE
VS.
ANTI-LIFE!
FOREVER PEOPLE
WHERE ARE YOUR FRIENDS, BOY? TELL ME, YOU LITTLE GARBAGE!--OR I'LL KILL YOU!
LET ME GO! Y-YOU'RE HURTING ME!
DEMONS OF APOKOLIPS! A JUSTIFIER!
HE'S GOT DONNIE!
WRITTEN, DRAWN AND EDITED BY: JACK KIRBY
INKED BY: VINCE COLLETTA
5

MOTHER BOX HAS BENT THE LIGHT AROUND US--SCATTERED THE SOUND VIBRATIONS!
THE JUSTIFIER CAN'T SEE OR HEAR US--BUT-
I KNOW--I KNOW HE'LL KILL DONNIE--
CREATE AN ILLUSION, BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!--CONFUSE HIM!
PING
PING
PING


WHERE ARE THE FOREVER PEOPLE, LITTLE SWINE? TELL ME! TELL ME!


WE'LL TELL YOU, BROTHER!
WHA-? WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU GET THOSE JUSTIFIER HELMETS?
NO--AAAAA!
PING--
PING
PING--
PING


FLUNG MERCILESSLY TO CERTAIN INJURY, THE INVALID BOY FINDS HIS FALL SUDDENLY ARRESTED IN MID-AIR!
VYKIN, THE BLACK!
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED! MOTHER BOX ACTS TO HELP YOU!
PING
PING
PING
PING

AND MOONRIDER, TOO! HANG ON, DONNIE!
WE'VE GOT DONNIE! BOLT FOR THE BLUE!
THE QUESTION IS--CAN WE MAKE IT?
6

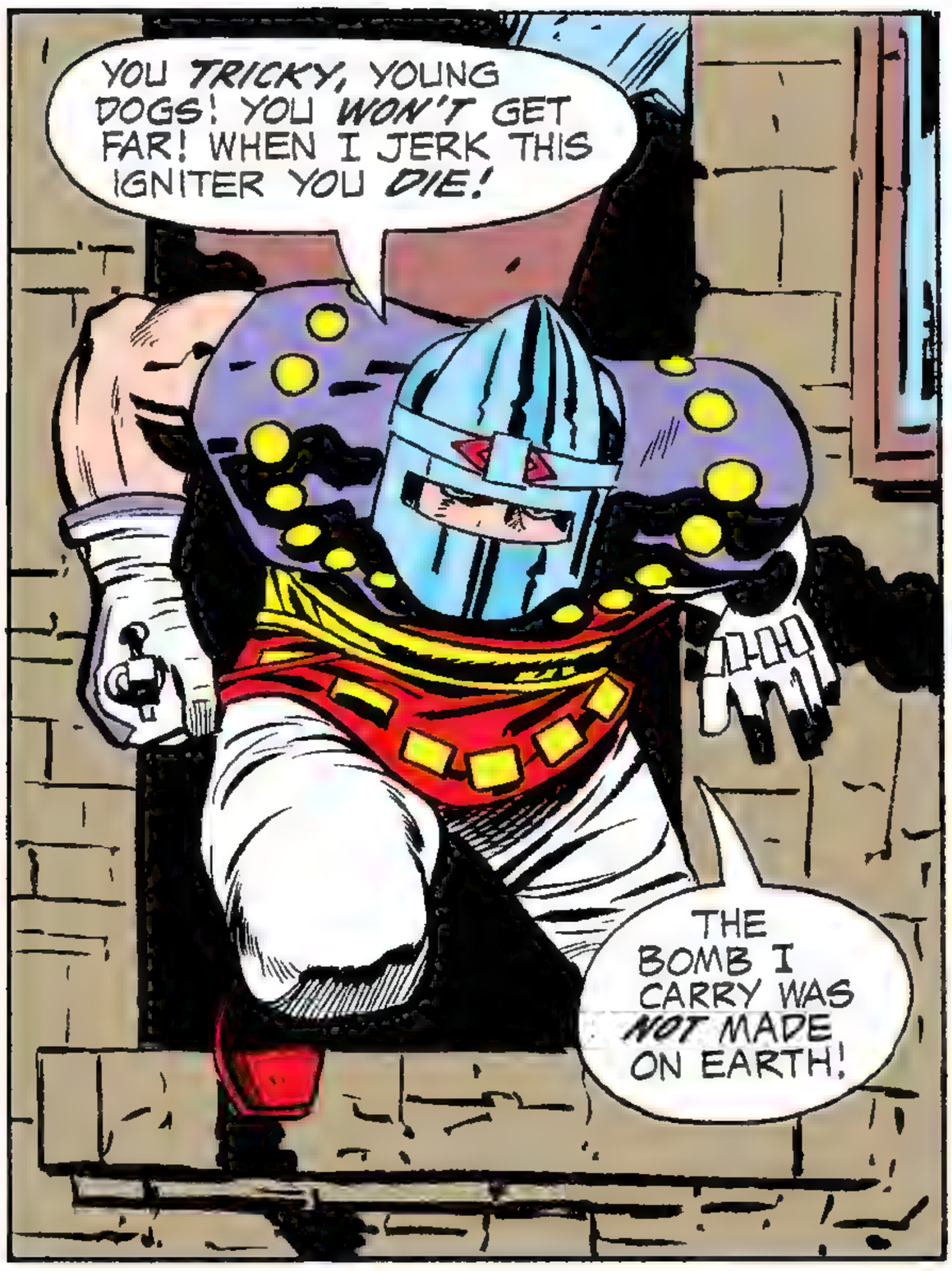
IF THAT JUSTIFIER WAS SENT HERE TO *DESTROY* US--THERE IS ONLY *ONE* WAY HE CAN GET US ALL IN *ONE* STROKE!

THERE IS *NO* STOPPING A *JUSTIFIER!* HE CAN JUSTIFY HIS OWN *DEATH!*

THE *ANTI-LIFE* PRINCIPLE IS NOW *PART* OF HIM!

HE'S *WIRED* TO EXPLODE! THE JUSTIFIER IS A *HUMAN BOMB!*

YES! *HE* MUST *DIE*--IN ORDER TO DESTROY ALL OF *US!*



THE GROUND HAS BEEN DUG OUT HERE BY *BULLDOZERS!*

DIVE FOR COVER!

R.R.KA-BOW WM

THE BOMB EMITS *OMEGA* RAYS! EARTHMEN WOULD DISINTE-GRATE *INSTANTLY!*

WE STILL HAVE ONE *MINI-SECOND!*

*ALTHOUGH **HIDING** IN AN ABANDONED DISTRICT OF A CITY IN THE PROCESS OF URBAN RENEWAL, THE FOREVER PEOPLE HAVE **NOT** FOUND SANCTUARY FROM DANGER!*

IT'S *OVER!* WE'RE *ALIVE!*

THE JUSTIFIER DIED *WILLINGLY*-- BUT IN *VAIN!*

BUT HIS DEATH TELLS US *MANY* THINGS!

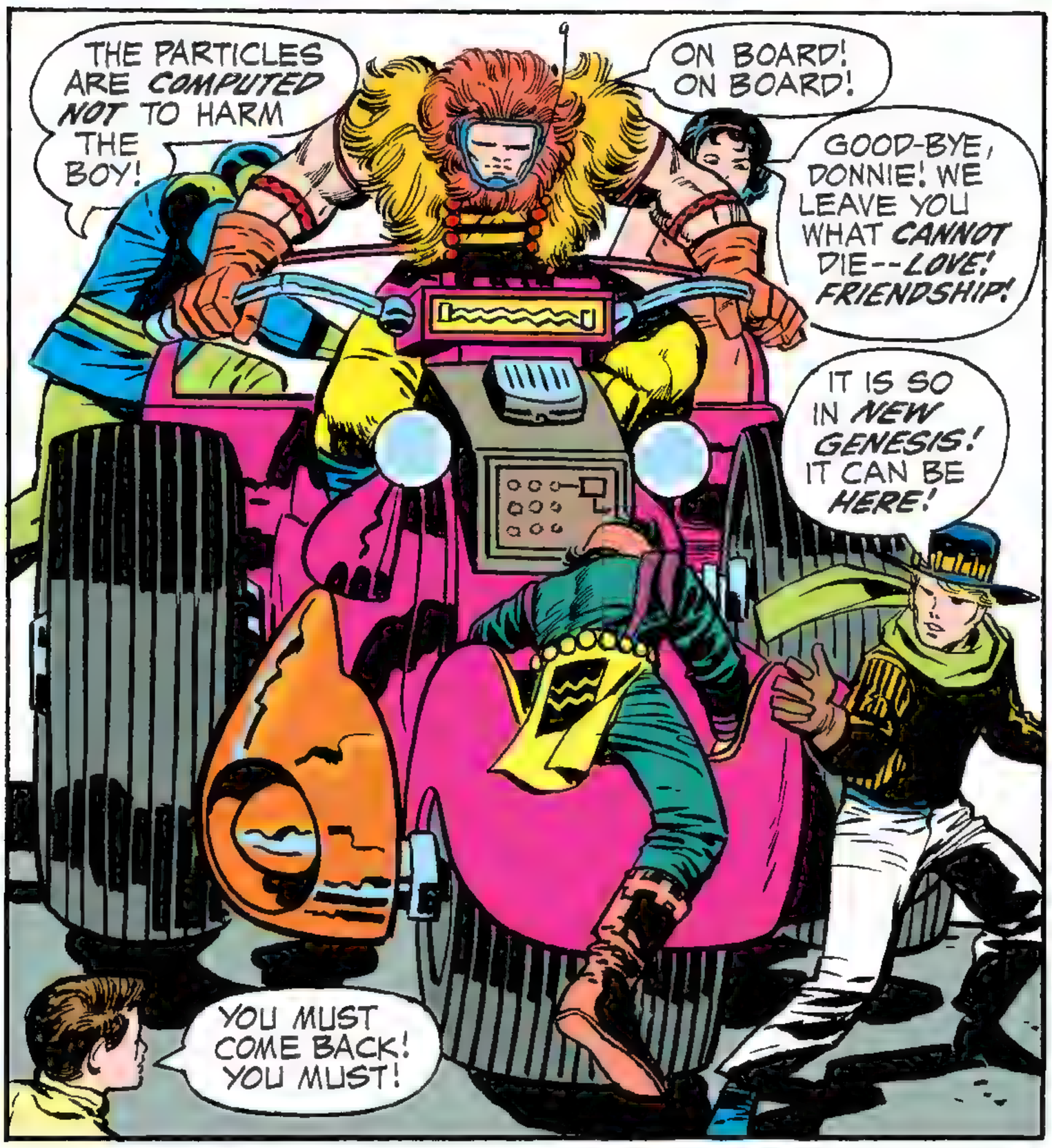
ALL FROM *NEW GENESIS*, WHO HAVE COME TO EARTH-- ARE BEING SOUGHT OUT-- FOR *DEATH!*

AND THE *ONE* WHO SENT THE JUSTIFIER TO KILL US--CAN ONLY BE-- *GLORIOUS GODFREY!*

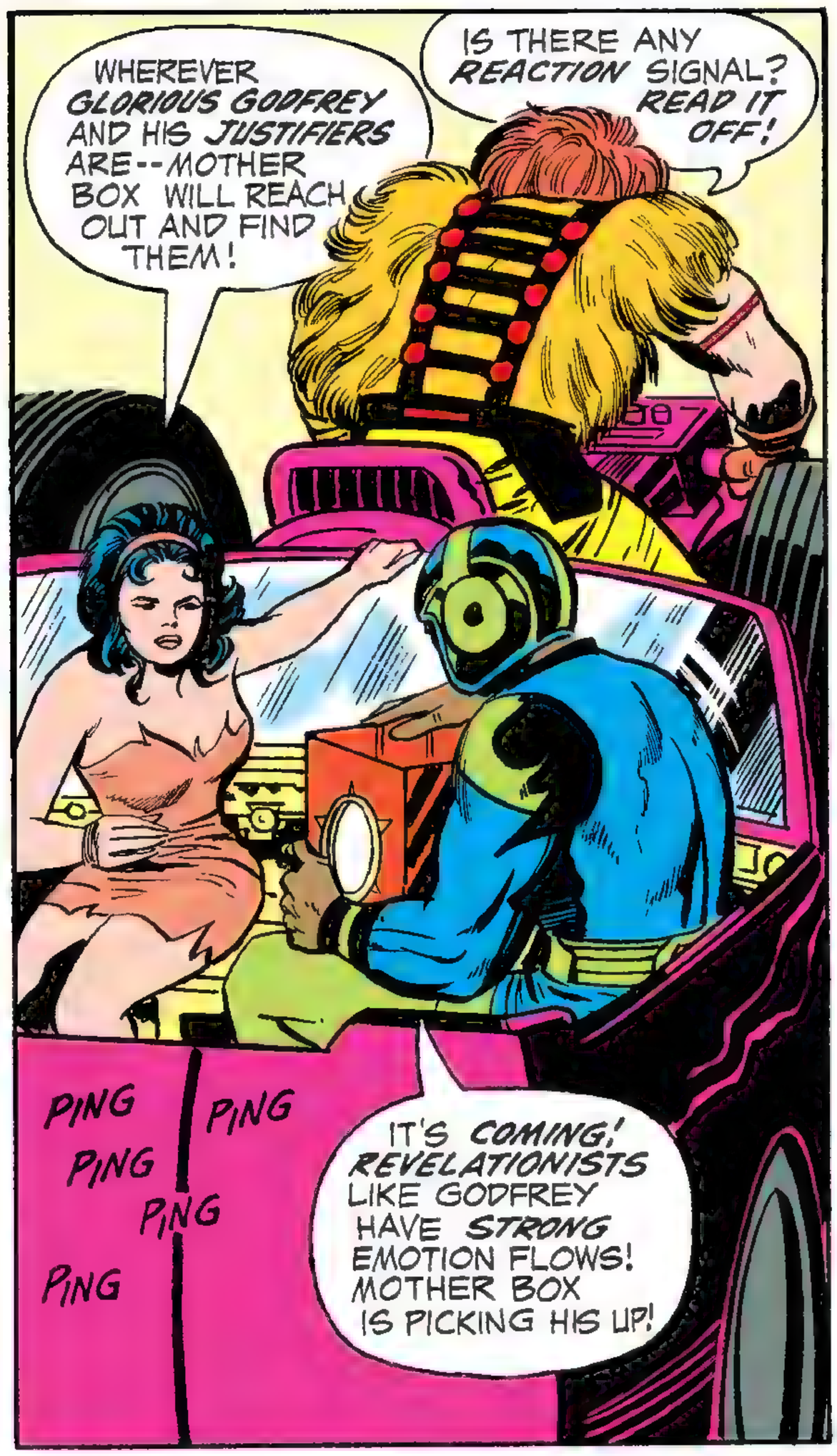
8

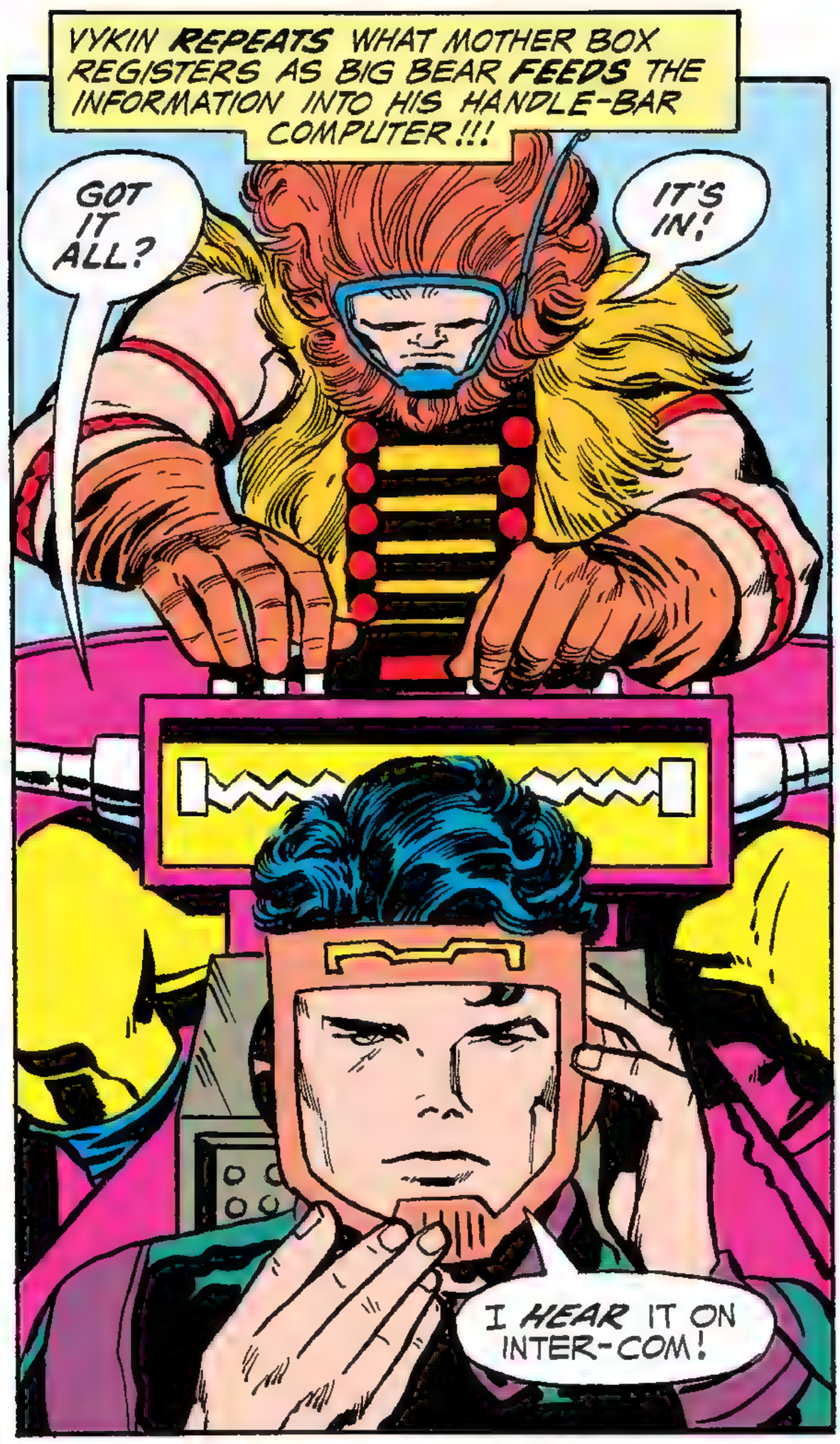
THEN, AS IF RESPONDING TO A SILENT AGREEMENT, THE FOREVER PEOPLE MAKE READY TO DEPART!
WE MUST LEAVE, DONNIE! WE WILL BE BACK--IF WE CAN--
I'LL WARM UP THE SUPER CYCLE!
B-BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN?
DONNIE--LIFE IS GOOD! LIVE IT FOR OTHERS--NOT AGAINST THEM! IN THAT WAY, YOU WILL ALWAYS BE CLOSE TO US!

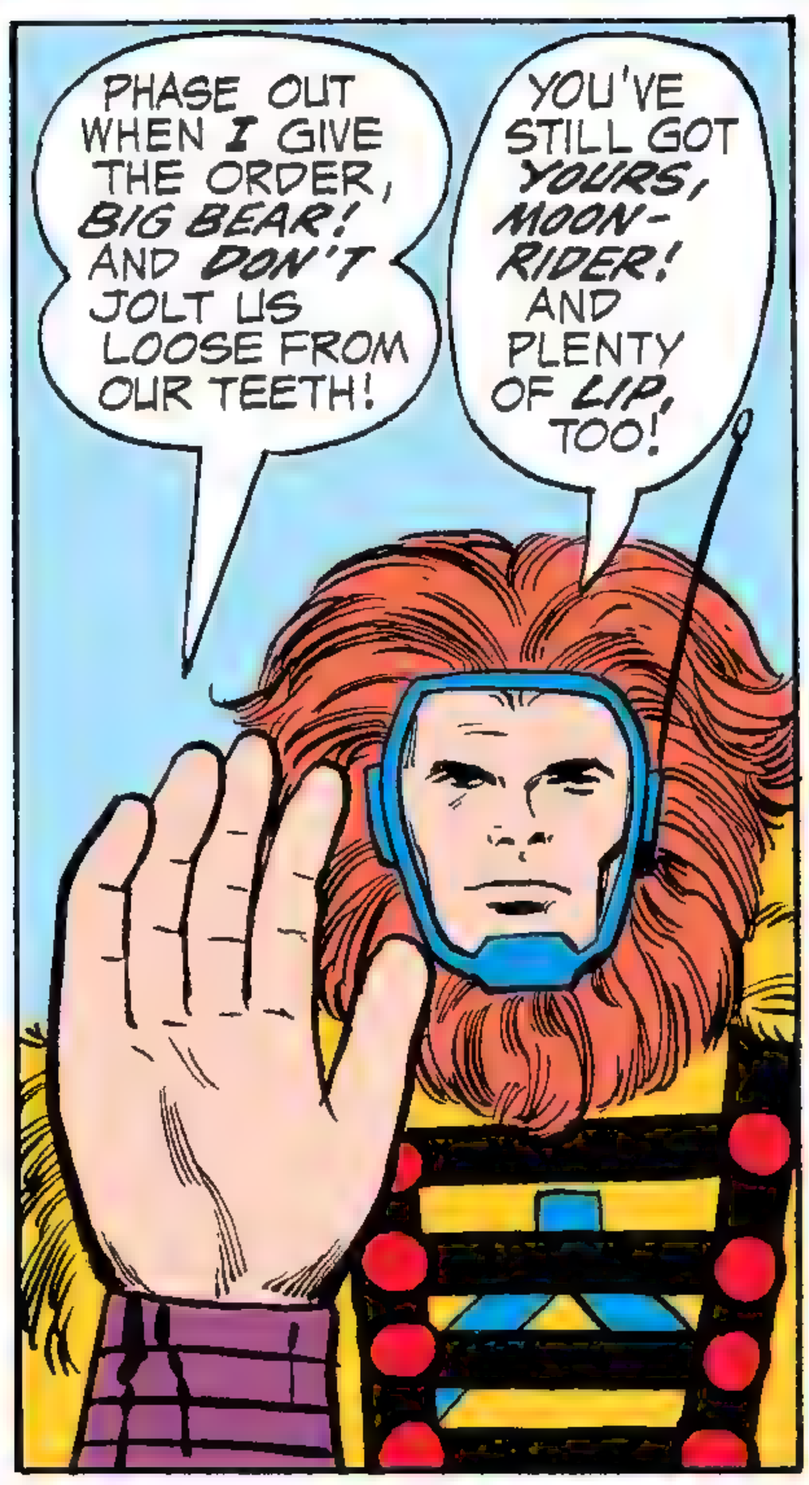
BARRIER THIS PLACE, VYKIN! A JUSTIFIER MAY COME AGAIN!
HE'LL BE A TARGET FOR DEADLY MICRON PARTICLES! MOTHER BOX FILLS THE AIR WITH THEM!
PING
PING
PING


THE PARTICLES ARE COMPUTED NOT TO HARM THE BOY!
ON BOARD! ON BOARD!
GOOD-BYE, DONNIE! WE LEAVE YOU WHAT CANNOT DIE--LOVE! FRIENDSHIP!
IT IS SO IN NEW GENESIS! IT CAN BE HERE!
YOU MUST COME BACK! YOU MUST!

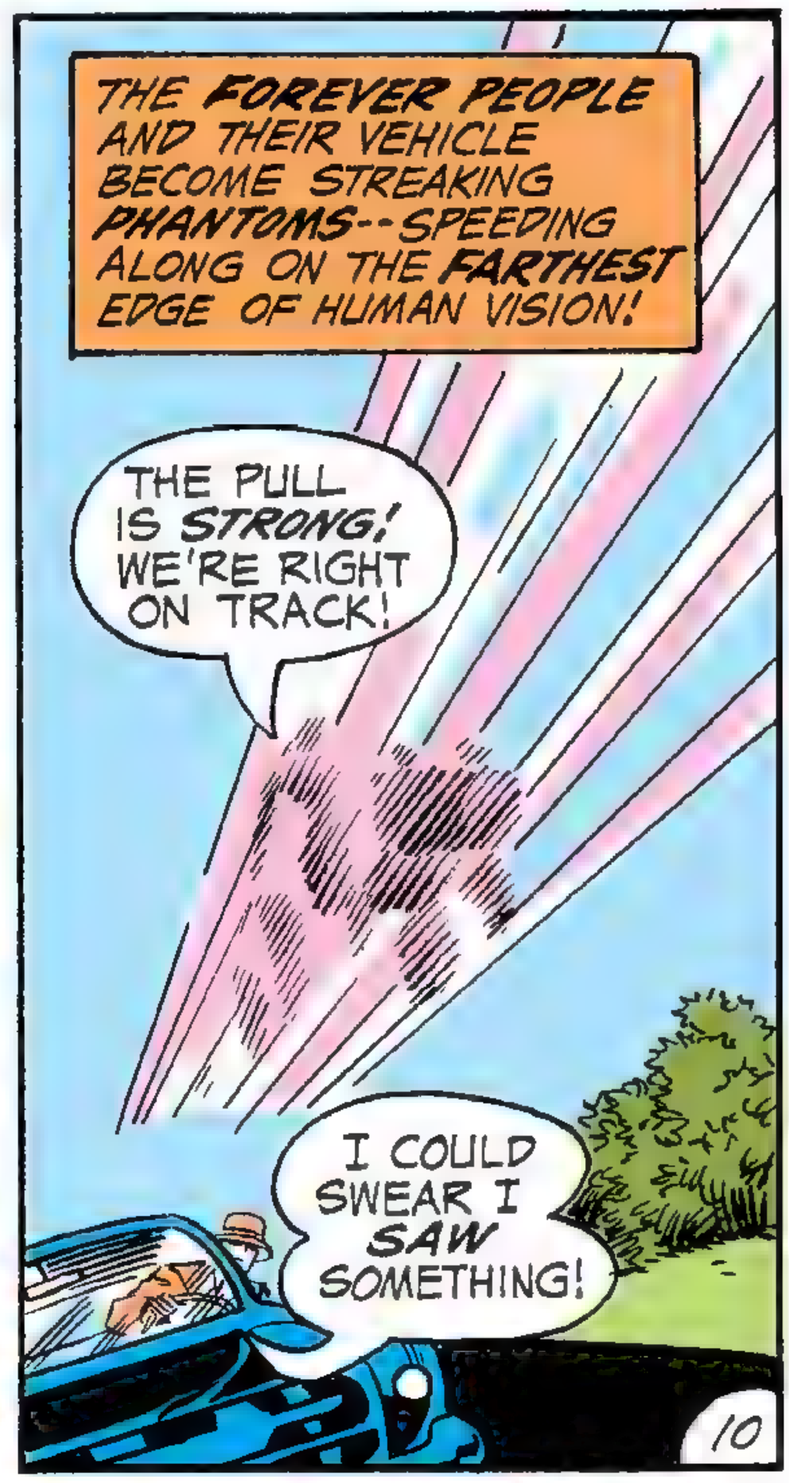
PREPARING FOR PHASE-OUT!
GET YOUR CO-ORDINATES FROM MOTHER BOX AND WORK THEM INTO THE CYCLE'S COMPUTERS!
9


WHEREVER GLORIOUS GODFREY AND HIS JUSTIFIERS ARE--MOTHER BOX WILL REACH OUT AND FIND THEM!
IS THERE ANY REACTION SIGNAL? READ IT OFF!
PING PING PING PING PING
IT'S COMING! REVELATIONISTS LIKE GODFREY HAVE STRONG EMOTION FLOWS! MOTHER BOX IS PICKING HIS UP!


VYKIN REPEATS WHAT MOTHER BOX REGISTERS AS BIG BEAR FEEDS THE INFORMATION INTO HIS HANDLE-BAR COMPUTER!!!
GOT IT ALL?
IT'S IN!
I HEAR IT ON INTER-COM!


PHASE OUT WHEN I GIVE THE ORDER, BIG BEAR! AND DON'T JOLT US LOOSE FROM OUR TEETH!
YOU'VE STILL GOT YOURS, MOON-RIDER! AND PLENTY OF LIP, TOO!

PHASE OUT! GRAB THE ELECTRON ROAD!
WE'RE ON IT!
SFAK!


THE FOREVER PEOPLE AND THEIR VEHICLE BECOME STREAKING PHANTOMS--SPEEDING ALONG ON THE FARTHEST EDGE OF HUMAN VISION!
THE PULL IS STRONG! WE'RE RIGHT ON TRACK!
I COULD SWEAR I SAW SOMETHING!
10

BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, SWOOPING DOWN UPON THE UNSUSPECTING CITY--

THIS IS THE PART OF TOWN WE WANT! THE PEOPLE WE'VE CHOSEN AS TARGETS LIVE HERE!

MOVE IN SWIFTLY! BEFORE THE SWINE REALIZE WHAT'S HAPPENING!

SEIZE AS MANY AS YOU CAN!

DON'T BOTHER TO DISCRIMINATE! THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE AS HATED AS THE MEN!

BREAK IN THE DOORS!

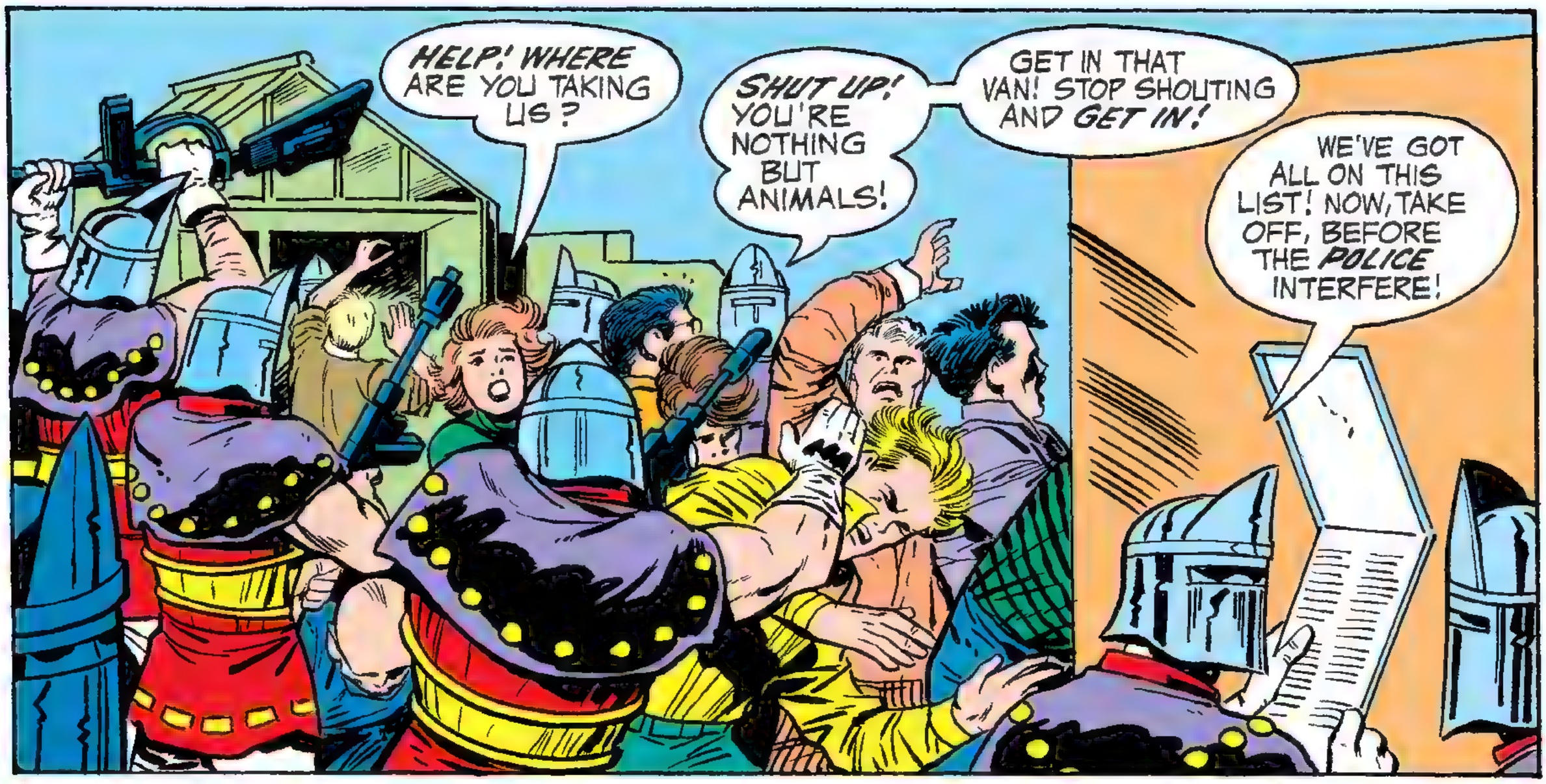
WASTE NO TIME ON MERCY! DRAG THEM OUT! TREAT THEM ROUGH!

BAM BAM

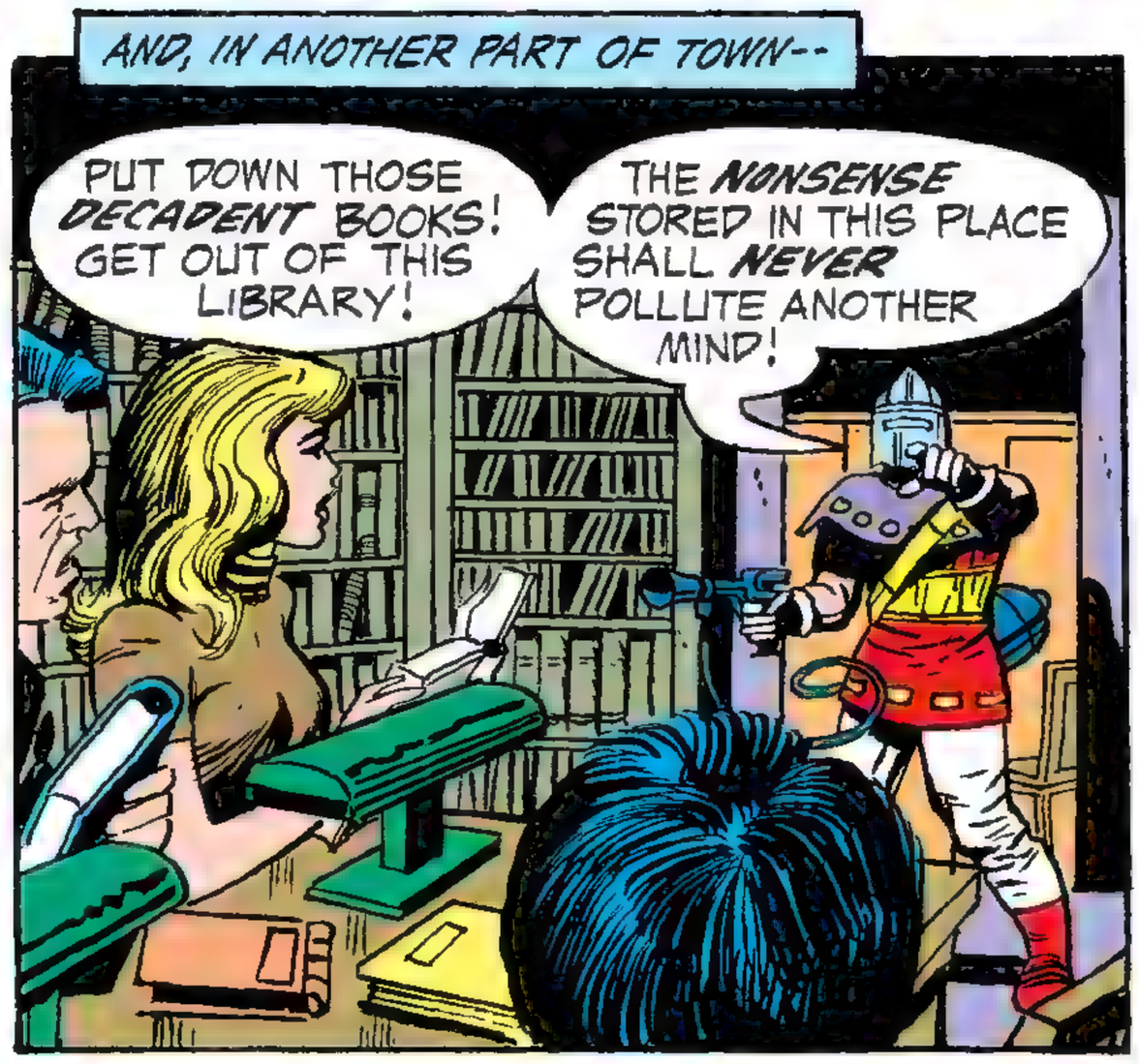
LISTEN TO THEIR CRIES! I'VE BEEN WAITING TO DO THIS FOR YEARS!

GET GOING! WE'LL SHOW WHAT WE DO WITH YOUR KIND!

HELP! HELP! STOP THIS!


HELP! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?
SHUT UP! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT ANIMALS!
GET IN THAT VAN! STOP SHOUTING AND GET IN!
WE'VE GOT ALL ON THIS LIST! NOW, TAKE OFF, BEFORE THE POLICE INTERFERE!

ANTI-LIFE WORKS! WE'RE JUSTIFIED IN RIDDING THE CITY OF THIS HUMAN TRASH!
THE CITY SHOULD THANK US!


AND, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN--
PUT DOWN THOSE DECADENT BOOKS! GET OUT OF THIS LIBRARY!
THE NONSENSE STORED IN THIS PLACE SHALL NEVER POLLUTE ANOTHER MIND!

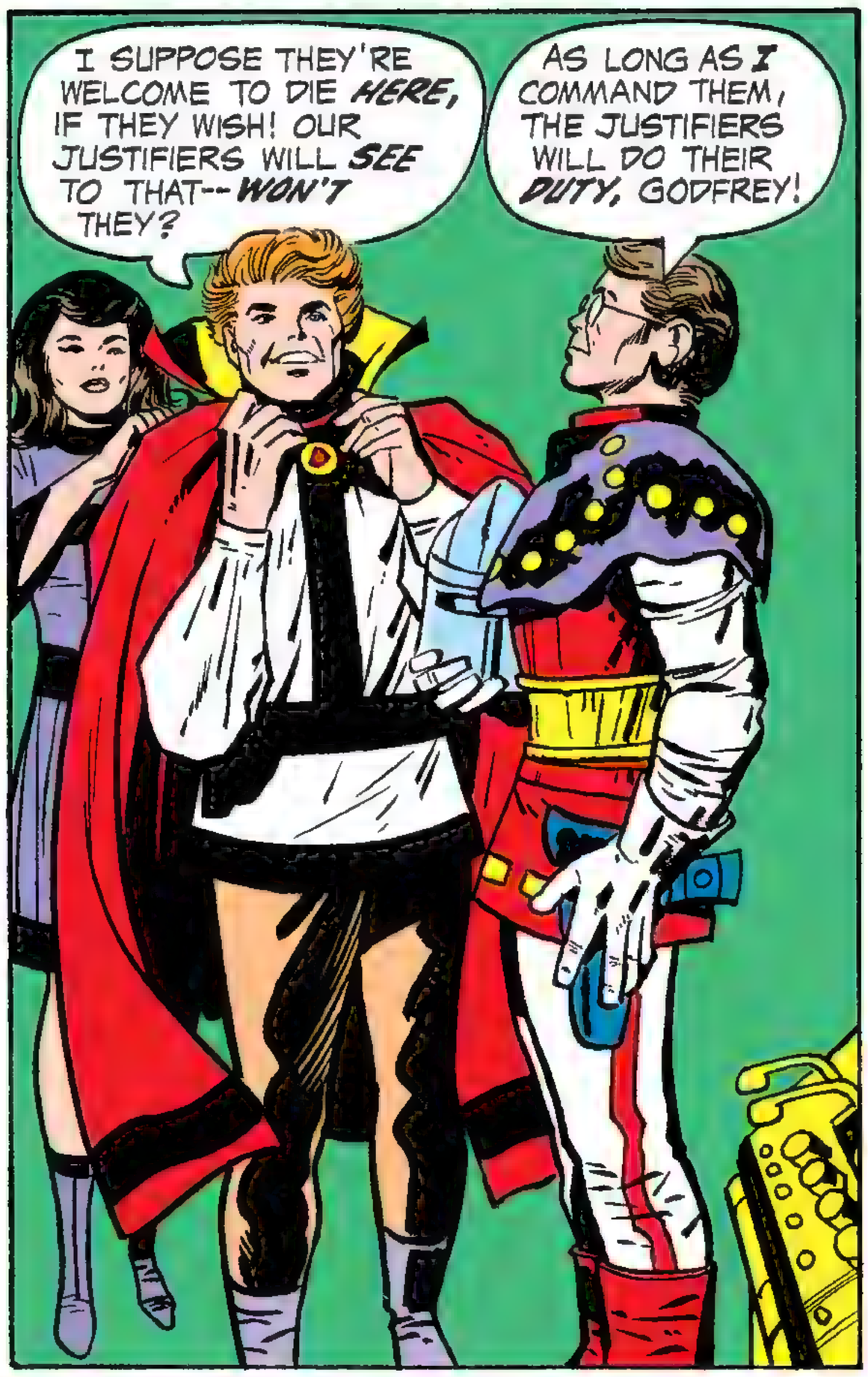
YOU NEED KNOW NO MORE THAN THE PROPER THINGS!
WHO BUT MYSELF IS JUSTIFIED IN BURNING DOWN THIS LIBRARY?
CALL THE POLICE! THIS GUY IS A DANGEROUS NUT!
12

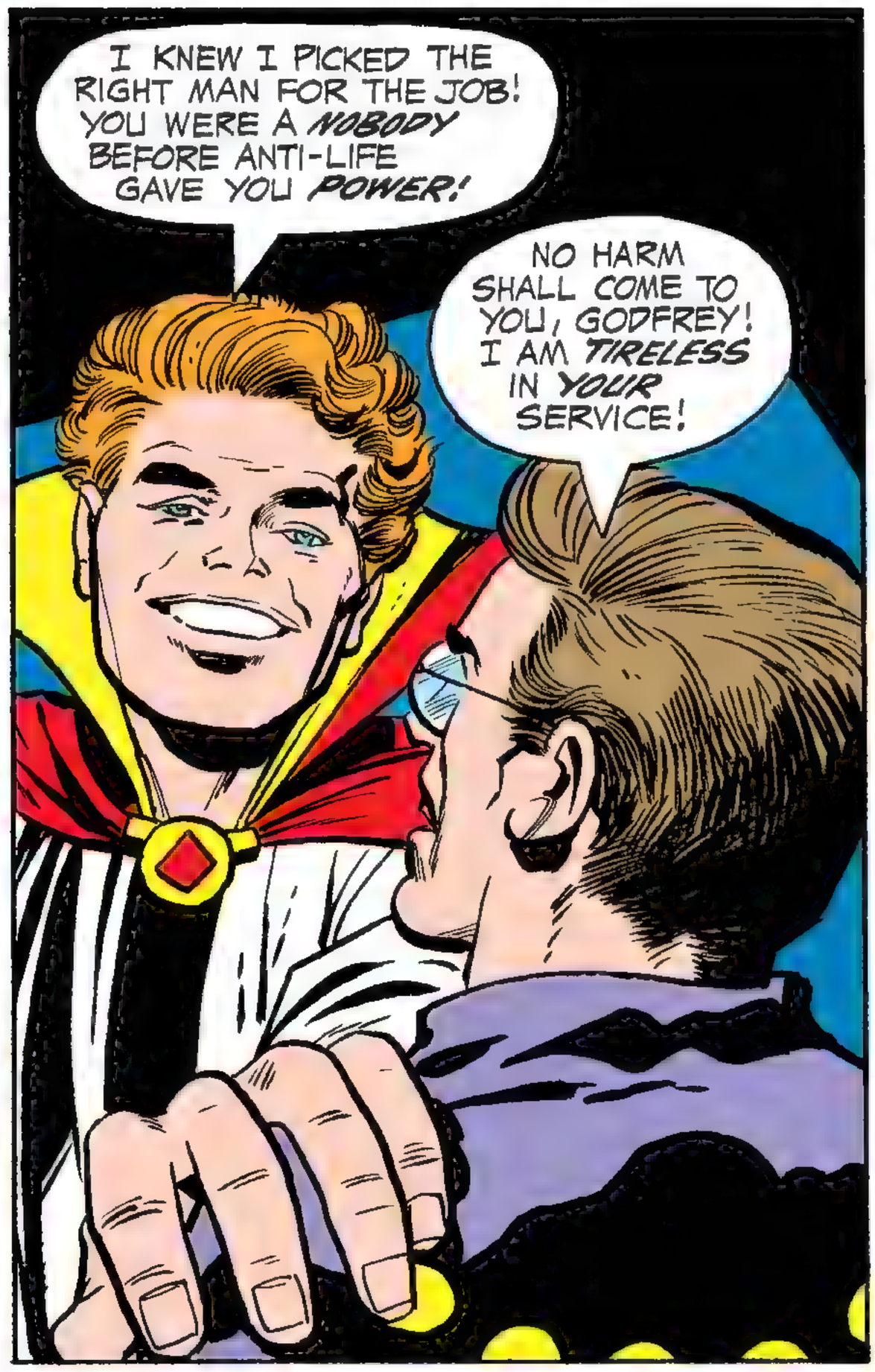
FROM HIS HEADQUARTERS, GLORIOUS GODFREY WATCHES HIS JUSTIFIERS IN ACTION AS HE PREPARES FOR A NEW AUDIENCE!

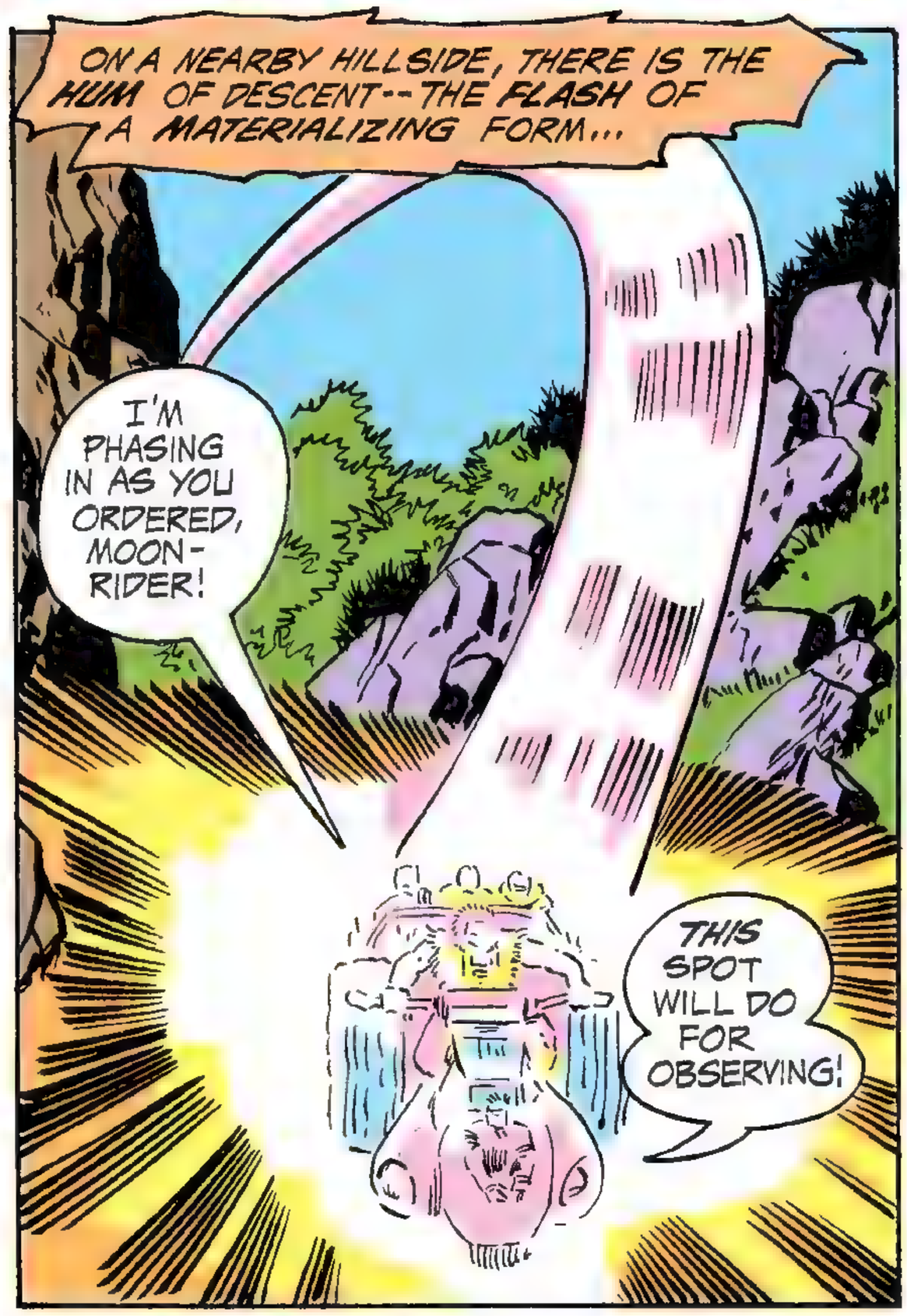
YOU LOOK WONDERFUL, GODFREY! YOU'LL SWEEP YOUR NEW AUDIENCE OFF ITS FEET!

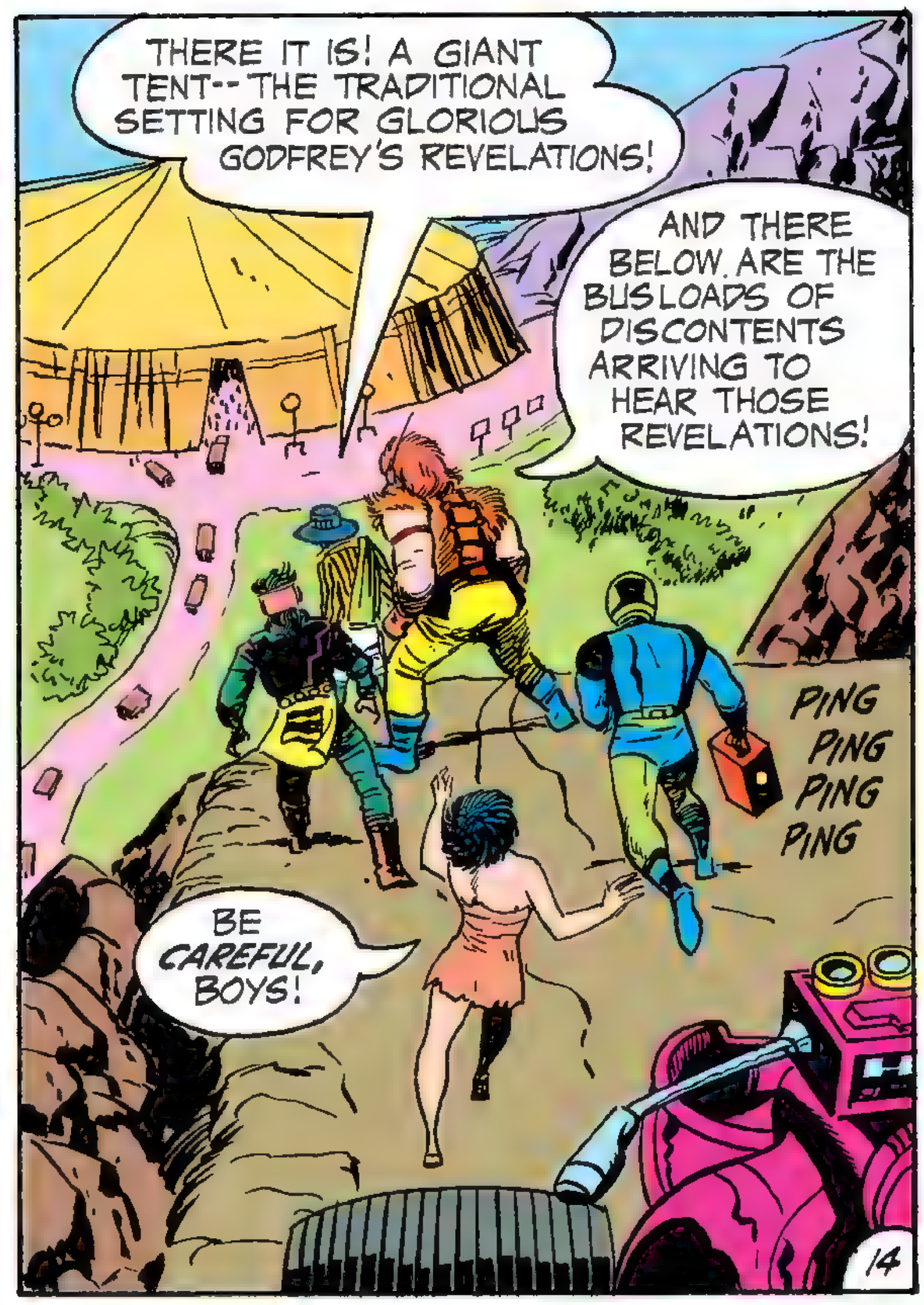
MY LITTLE LEGION IS DOING WELL, TOO! THERE'S ONE OF THEM DEFACING A STORE WITH AN "S" FOR SCAPEGOAT!

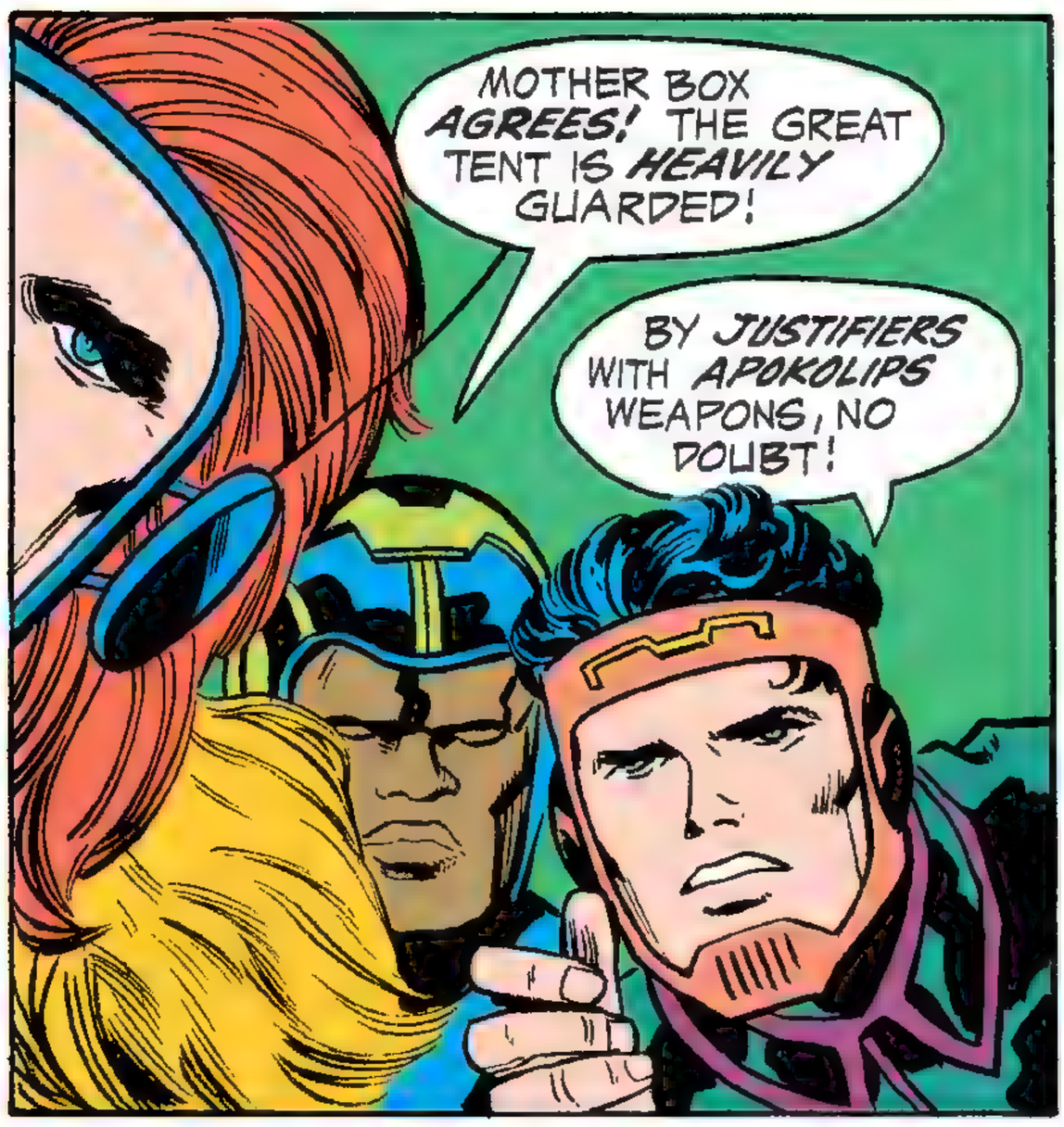
ANTI-LIFE IS A HEADY, EXHILARATING EXPERIENCE, GODFREY! THEY'RE IN ECSTASY!


I SUPPOSE THEY'RE WELCOME TO DIE HERE, IF THEY WISH! OUR JUSTIFIERS WILL SEE TO THAT--WON'T THEY?
AS LONG AS I COMMAND THEM, THE JUSTIFIERS WILL DO THEIR DUTY, GODFREY!

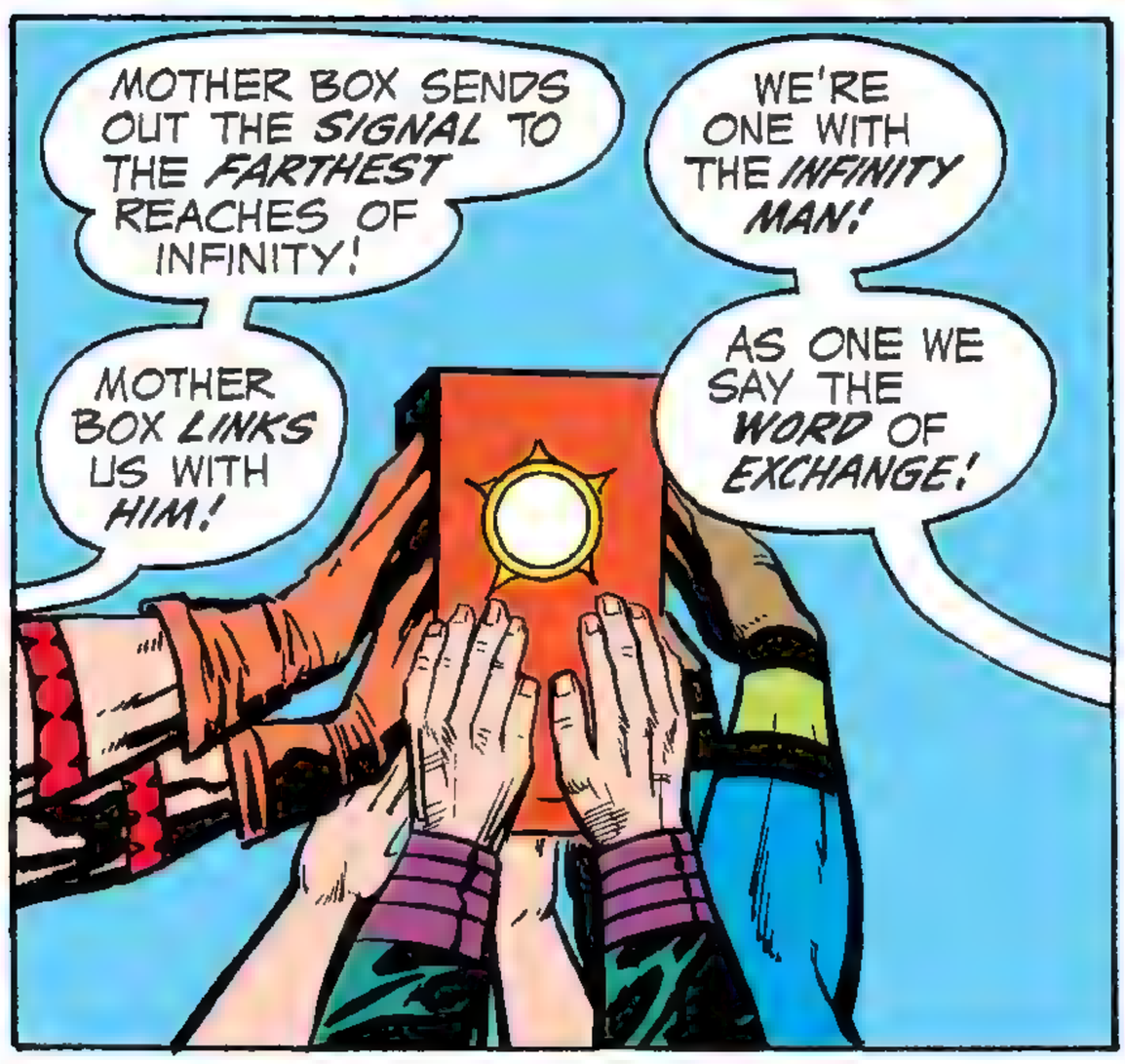

I KNEW I PICKED THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB! YOU WERE A NOBODY BEFORE ANTI-LIFE GAVE YOU POWER!
NO HARM SHALL COME TO YOU, GODFREY! I AM TIRELESS IN YOUR SERVICE!


ON A NEARBY HILLSIDE, THERE IS THE HUM OF DESCENT--THE FLASH OF A MATERIALIZING FORM...
I'M PHASING IN AS YOU ORDERED, MOON-RIDER!
THIS SPOT WILL DO FOR OBSERVING!


THERE IT IS! A GIANT TENT--THE TRADITIONAL SETTING FOR GLORIOUS GODFREY'S REVELATIONS!
AND THERE BELOW, ARE THE BUSLOADS OF DISCONTENTS ARRIVING TO HEAR THOSE REVELATIONS!
PING PING PING
BE CAREFUL, BOYS!
14


MOTHER BOX AGREES! THE GREAT TENT IS HEAVILY GUARDED!
BY JUSTIFIERS WITH APOKOLIPS WEAPONS, NO DOUBT!

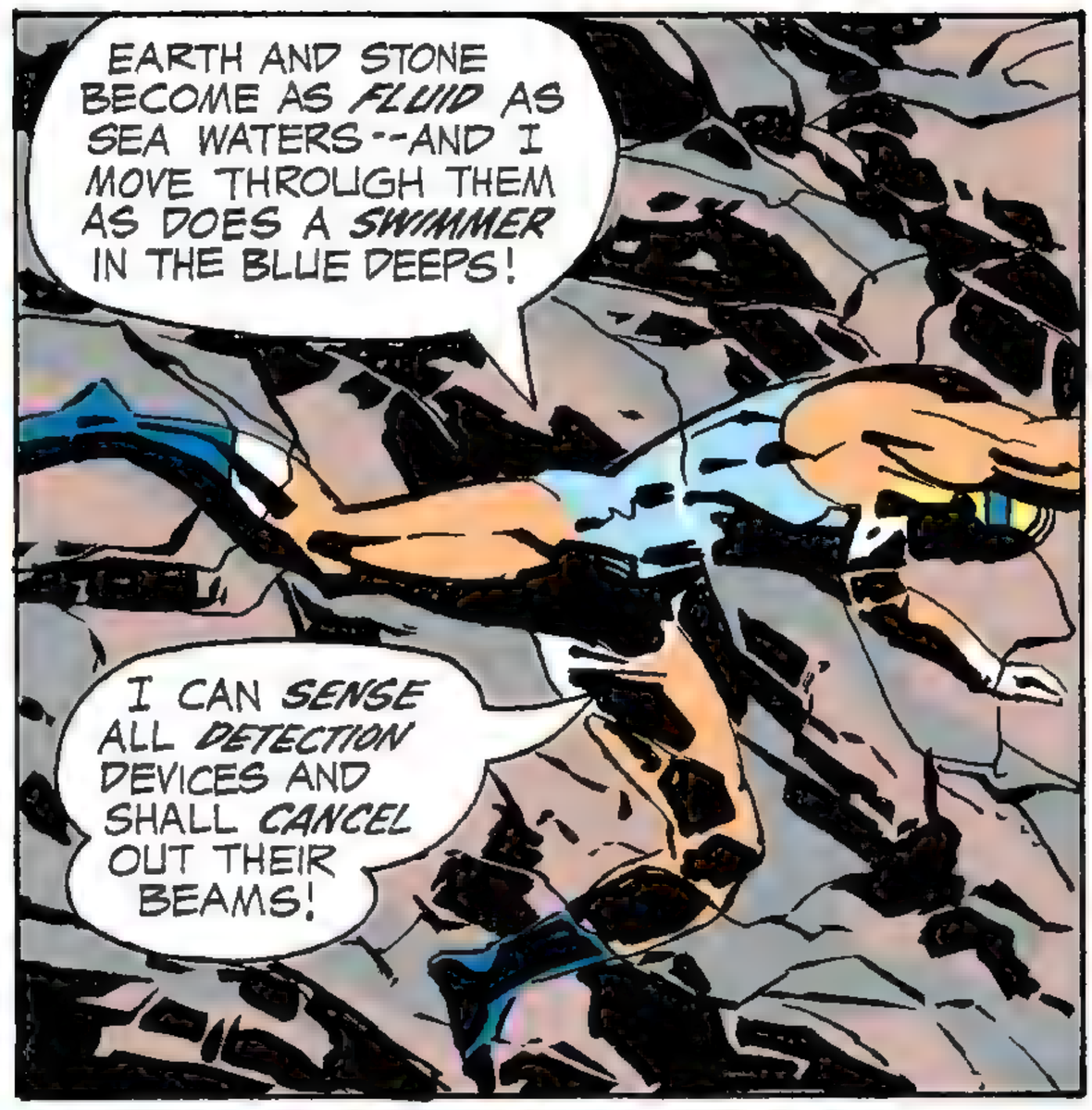
THEY MAY BE READY FOR US! BUT NOT FOR THE INFINITY MAN!
MOTHER BOX READS YOU! SHE RISES IN READINESS FOR THE "RITUAL"!
IT IS THE RITUAL THROUGH WHICH THE INFINITY MAN CAN COME HERE!

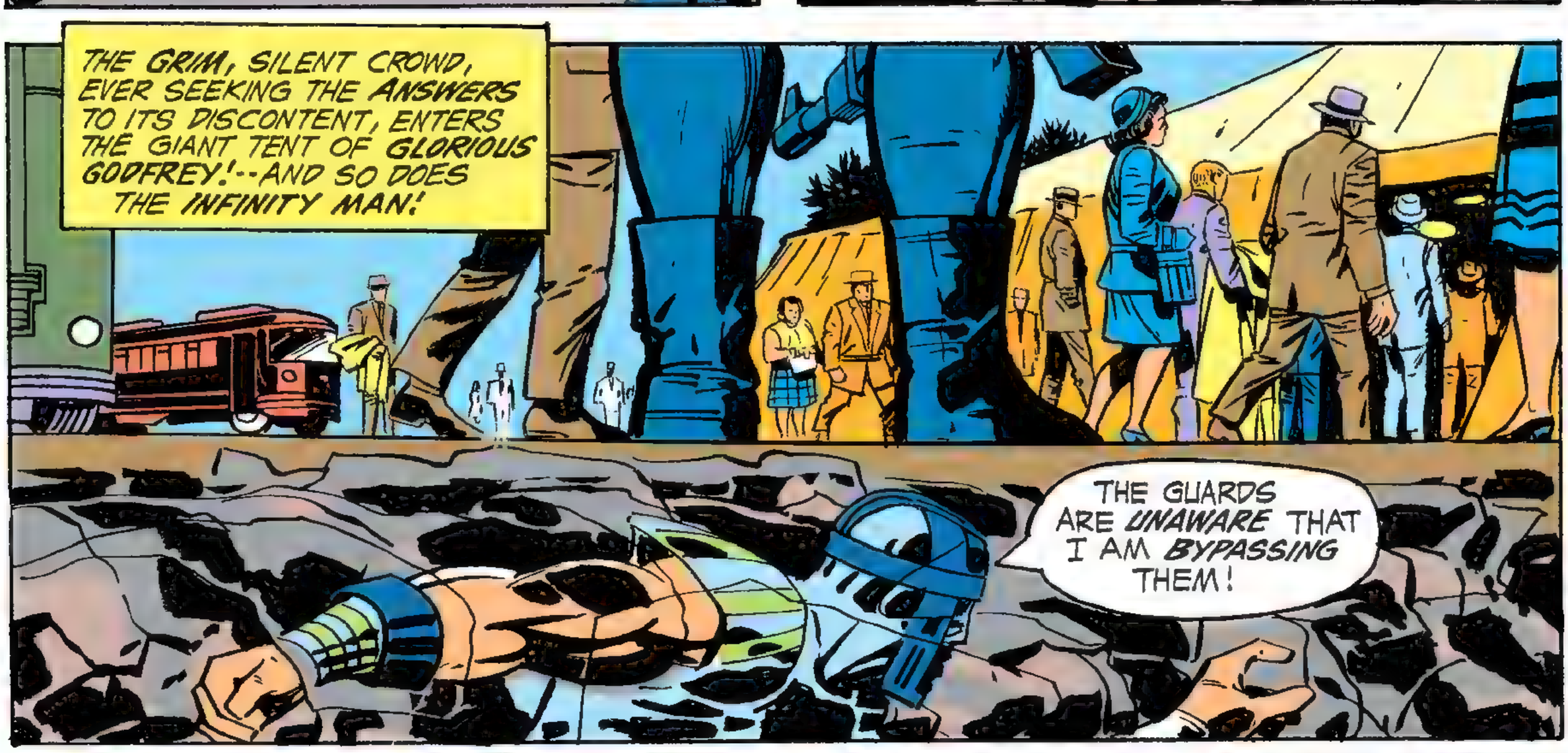

MOTHER BOX SENDS OUT THE SIGNAL TO THE FARTHEST REACHES OF INFINITY!
WE'RE ONE WITH THE INFINITY MAN!
MOTHER BOX LINKS US WITH HIM!
AS ONE WE SAY THE WORD OF EXCHANGE!

TAARU!

AS THE THUNDEROUS ECHOES SUBSIDE, THE FOREVER PEOPLE ARE GONE-- AND IN THEIR PLACE IS--THE INFINITY MAN!
WHAT THE FOREVER PEOPLE KNOW--I KNOW! THEIR OBJECTIVE IS MINE!
I AM CALLED! I AM HERE! I AM PRIMED TO ACT!
15

THERE ARE NO OBSTACLES FOR ME! DIMENSIONS ARE OPEN DOORS--
I MASTER THE EXPANSION OF ATOMS! THEY PART--AND ALLOW ME PASSAGE!

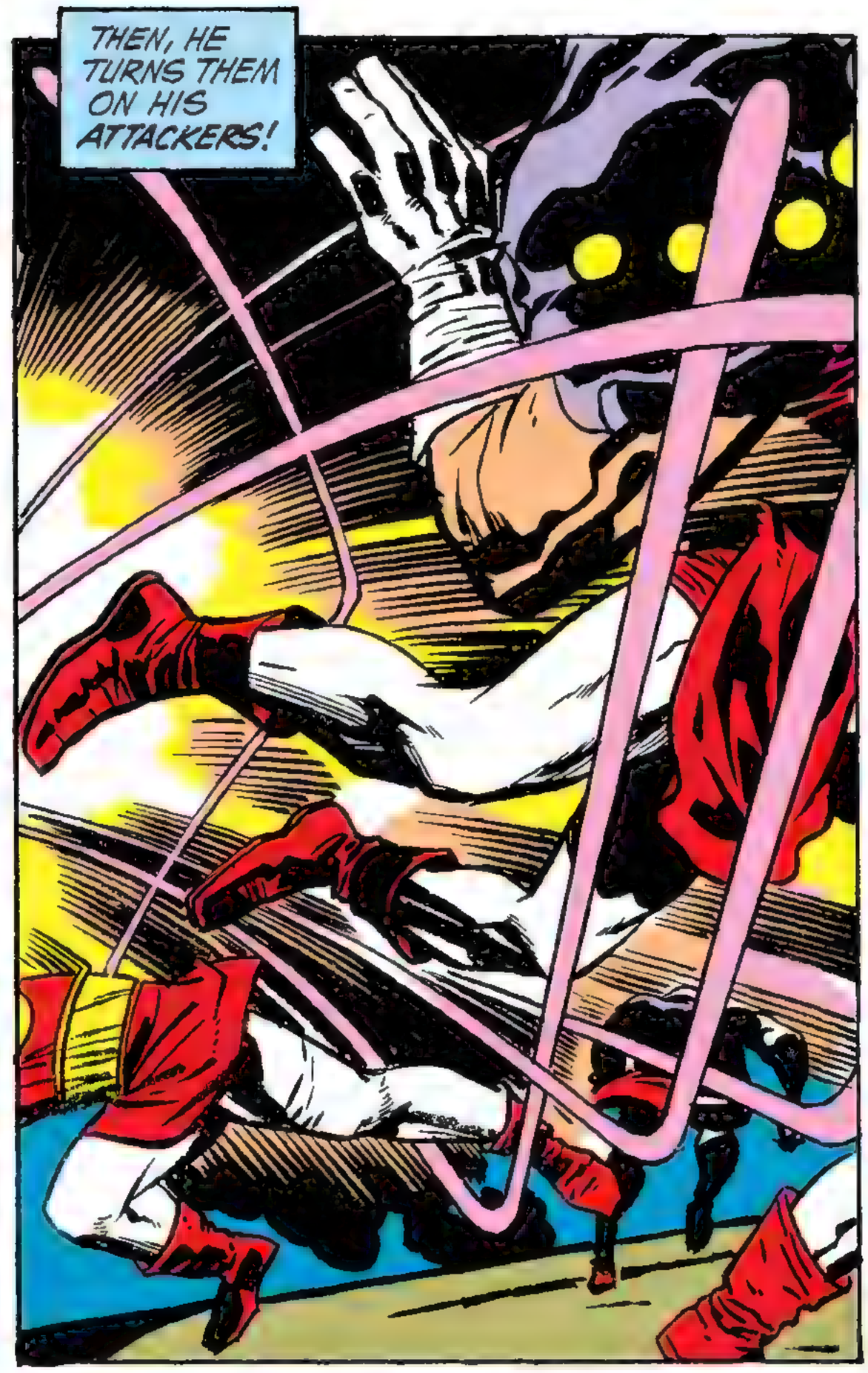

EARTH AND STONE BECOME AS FLUID AS SEA WATERS--AND I MOVE THROUGH THEM AS DOES A SWIMMER IN THE BLUE DEEPS!
I CAN SENSE ALL DETECTION DEVICES AND SHALL CANCEL OUT THEIR BEAMS!

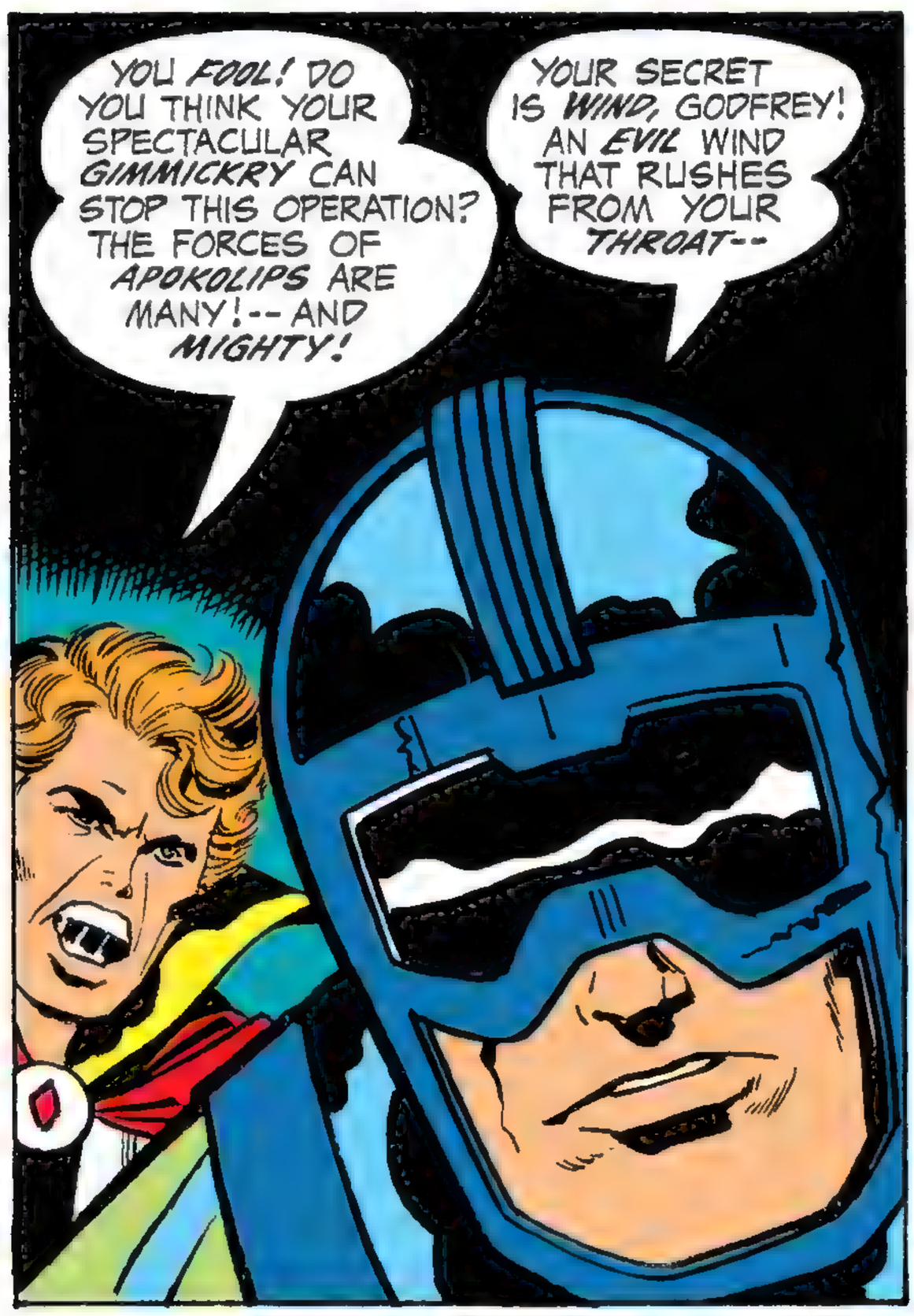

THE GRIM, SILENT CROWD, EVER SEEKING THE ANSWERS TO ITS DISCONTENT, ENTERS THE GIANT TENT OF GLORIOUS GODFREY!--AND SO DOES THE INFINITY MAN!
THE GUARDS ARE UNAWARE THAT I AM BYPASSING THEM!

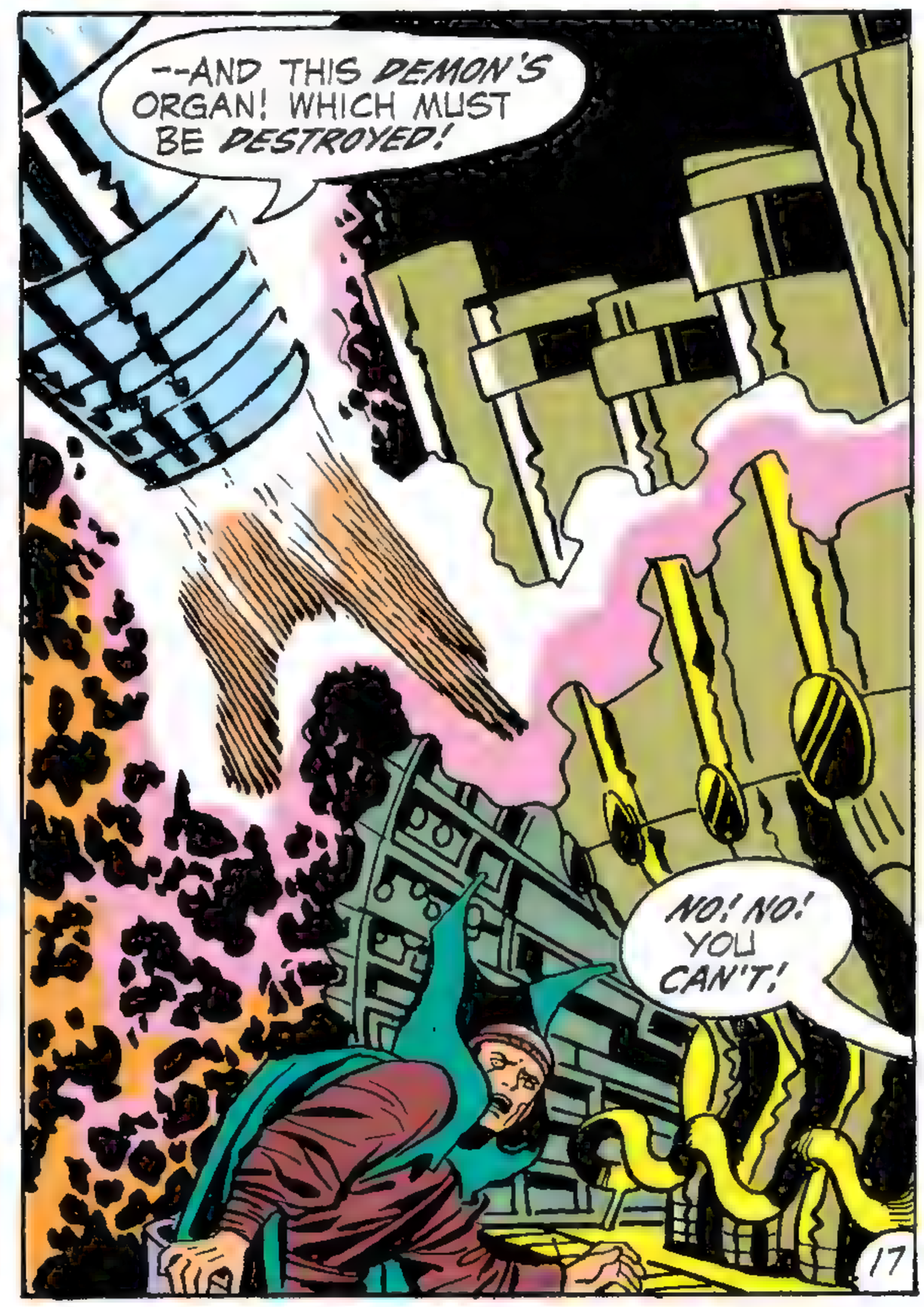
INSIDE THE GIANT TENT, GLORIOUS GODFREY EXHORTS THE POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR ANTI-LIFE! THEN--
WHA--! A GHOST--RISING FROM THE GROUND!
HOLD, FRIENDS! ONE MOMENT!

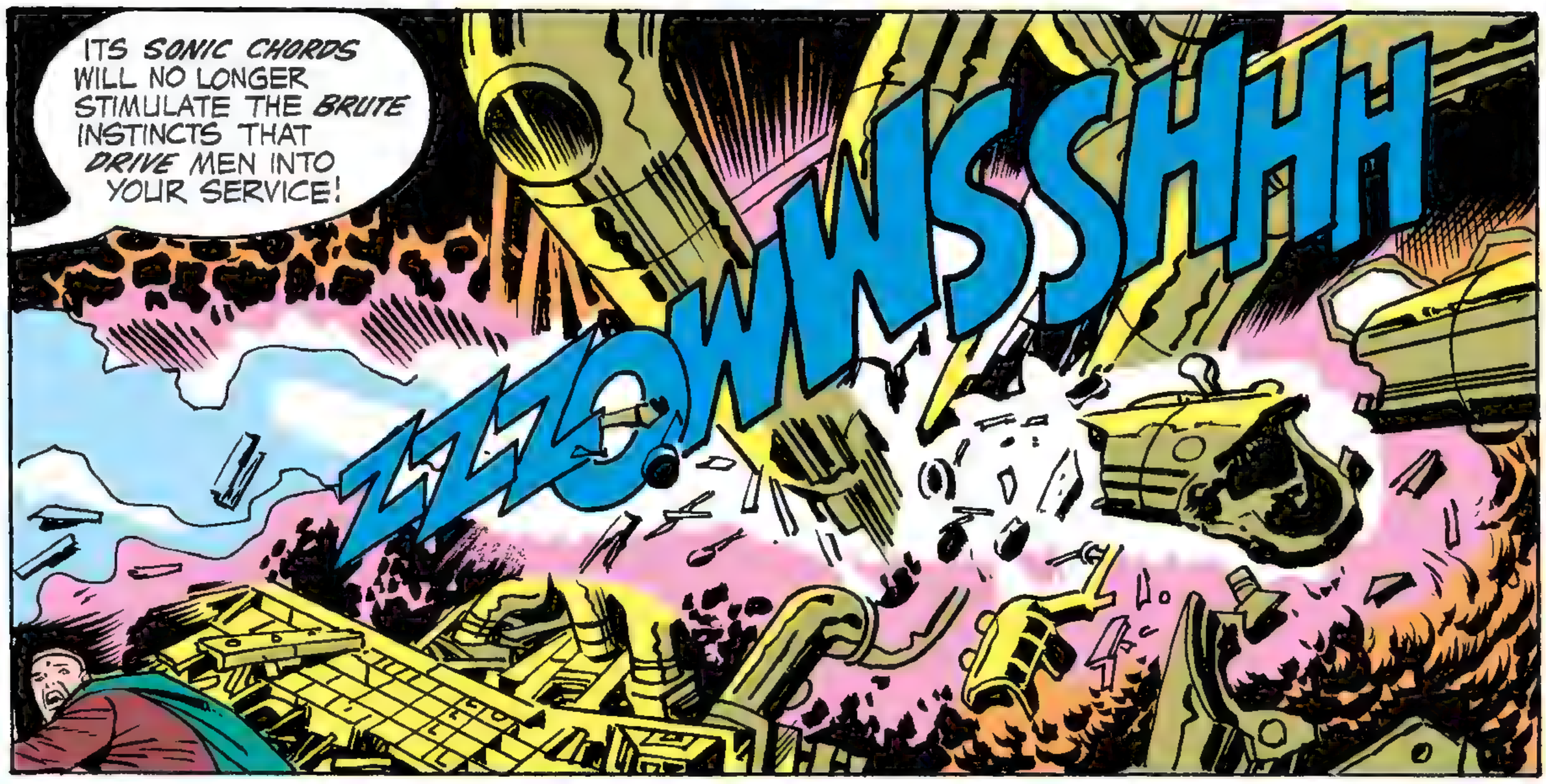
THE INTRUDER GROWS SOLID! OMEGA SHOTS CAN GET HIM NOW!
BLAST HIM! BLAST HIM! PROTECT GLORIOUS GODFREY!
16

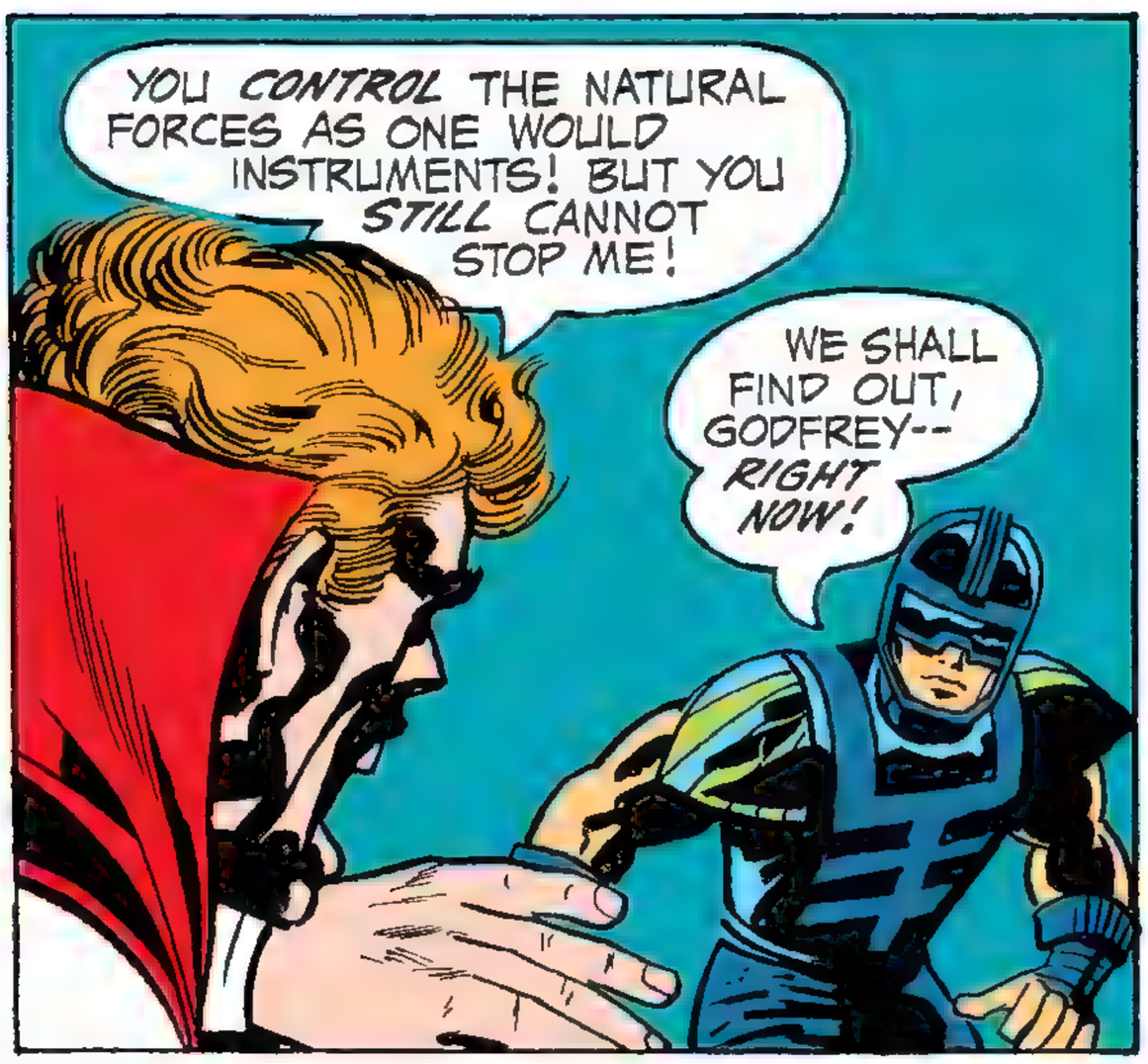
THE INFINITY MAN LOCKS ON THE FLIGHT OF THE DEADLY BULLETS--TAKES OVER THEIR MANEUVERING--PROCEEDS TO CONTROL THEM--


THEN, HE TURNS THEM ON HIS ATTACKERS!

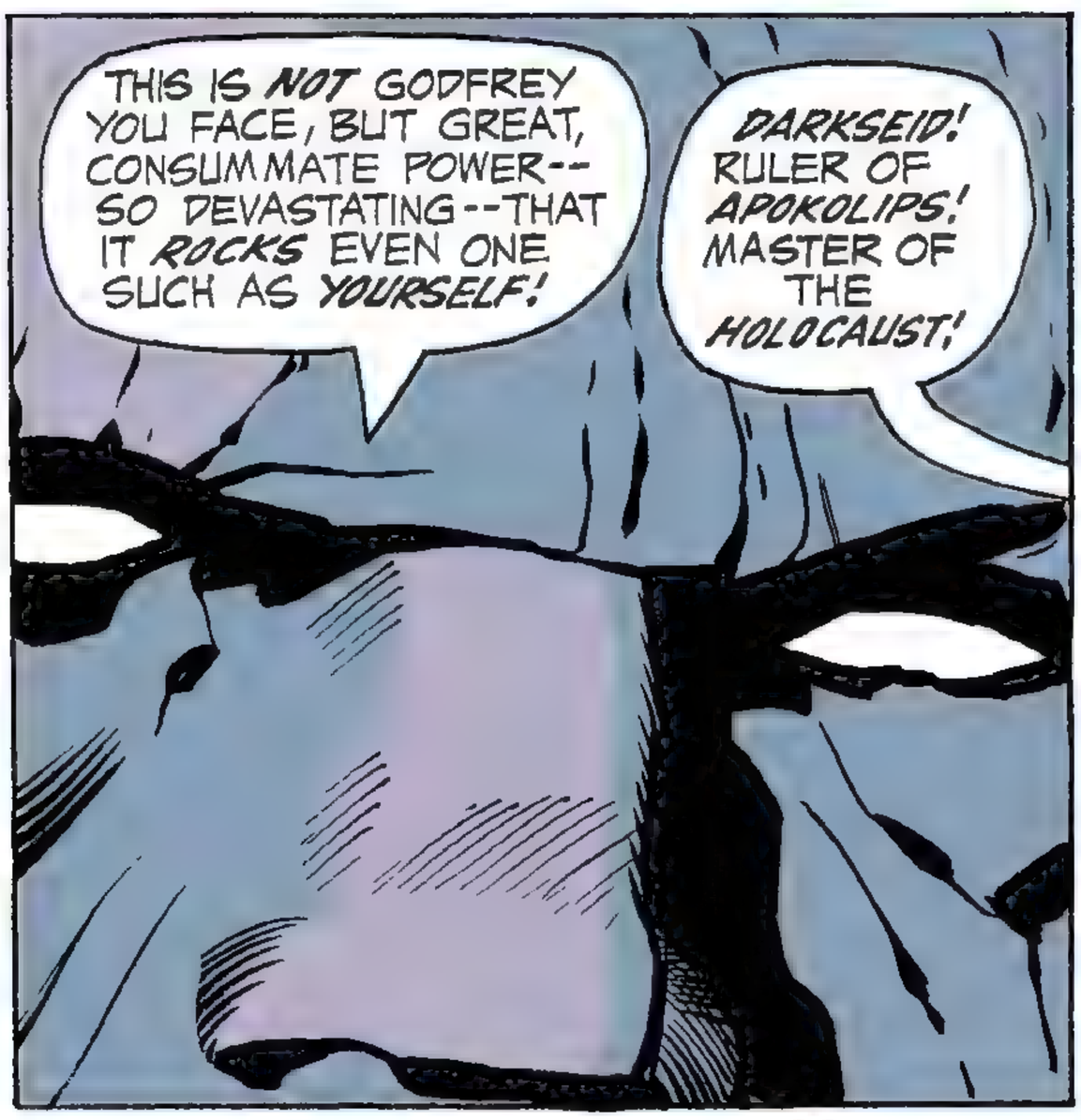

YOU FOOL! DO YOU THINK YOUR SPECTACULAR GIMMICKRY CAN STOP THIS OPERATION? THE FORCES OF APOKOLIPS ARE MANY!-- AND MIGHTY!
YOUR SECRET IS WIND, GODFREY! AN EVIL WIND THAT RUSHES FROM YOUR THROAT--

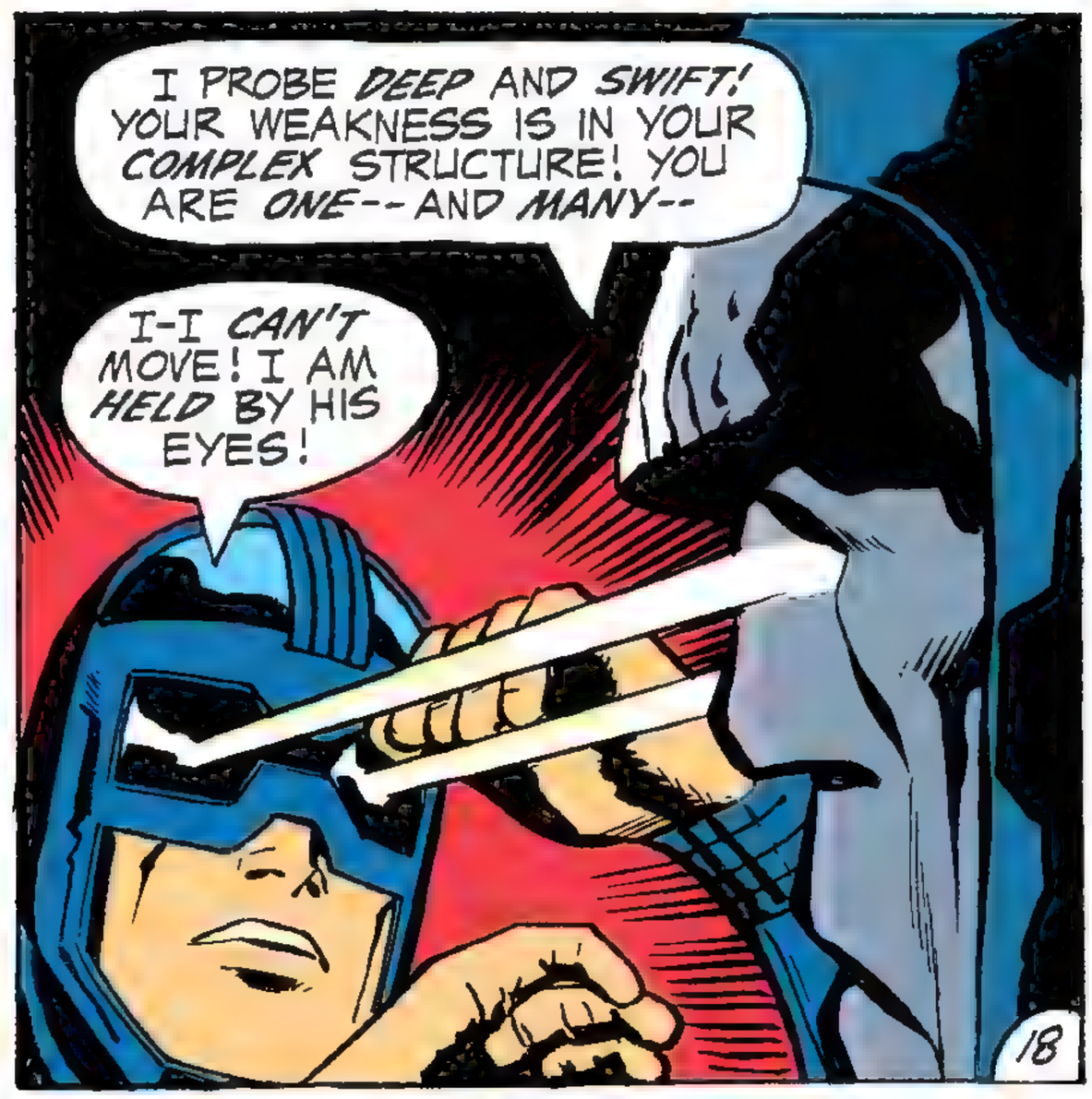

--AND THIS DEMON'S ORGAN! WHICH MUST BE DESTROYED!
NO! NO! YOU CAN'T!
17

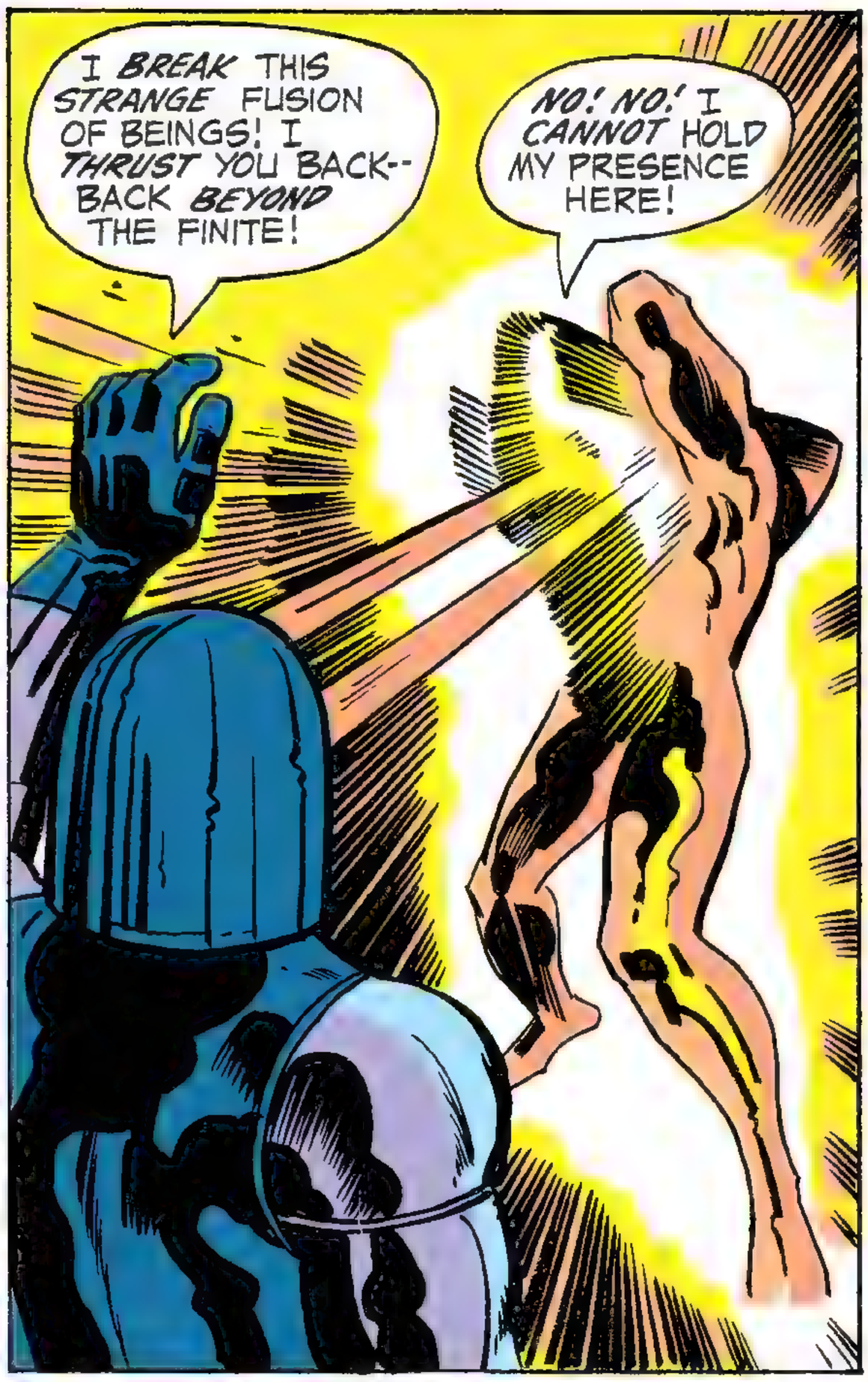

ITS SONIC CHORDS WILL NO LONGER STIMULATE THE BRUTE INSTINCTS THAT DRIVE MEN INTO YOUR SERVICE!
WHSSHHH


YOU CONTROL THE NATURAL FORCES AS ONE WOULD INSTRUMENTS! BUT YOU STILL CANNOT STOP ME!
WE SHALL FIND OUT, GODFREY-- RIGHT NOW!

NOT YET, WONDROUS ONE! YOU SHALL NOT GET THE CHANCE! TURN ABOUT! LOOK AT ME!
THAT VOICE! IT CHILLS THE SPIRIT--LIKE THE COMING DOOM OF ALL LIVING THINGS!


THIS IS NOT GODFREY YOU FACE, BUT GREAT, CONSUMMATE POWER-- SO DEVASTATING--THAT IT ROCKS EVEN ONE SUCH AS YOURSELF!
DARKSEID! RULER OF APOKOLIPS! MASTER OF THE HOLOCAUST!


I PROBE DEEP AND SWIFT! YOUR WEAKNESS IS IN YOUR COMPLEX STRUCTURE! YOU ARE ONE--AND MANY--
I-I CAN'T MOVE! I AM HELD BY HIS EYES!
18


I BREAK THIS STRANGE FUSION OF BEINGS! I THRUST YOU BACK-- BACK BEYOND THE FINITE!
NO! NO! I CANNOT HOLD MY PRESENCE HERE!

I GAVE YOU NO CHANCE TO FIGHT BACK! I STRUCK WITH THE FULL FORCE OF MY PROBE!
FADE! VANISH! LEAVE YOUR SPACE FOR THE RETURN OF THOSE WHO ARE LINKED WITH YOU!
KARRAK

WELCOME BACK! THE YOUNG OF NEW GENESIS WILL BE EASIER TO DEAL WITH!
DARKSEID! DO YOUR WORST! WE'RE NOT AFRAID!

OF COURSE NOT! IT WOULD PAIN ME DEEPLY TO DEAL HARSHLY WITH YOU! THAT IS WHY I KEEP SUCH AS DESAAD AT MY SIDE!
I DON'T MIND PLAYING GAMES IN THE SLIGHTEST! HERE! TRY THIS TOY! FUN, ISN'T IT?
AAAA AAA
ZZZZ SSHHH
19

HA! HA! HA! THEY YELPED LOUDLY BEFORE THEY COLLAPSED! MY NERVE BEAMS INSPIRE SUCH REACTIONS!

OPEN THOSE DOORS! LOAD THESE ENEMIES OF APOKOLIPS ABOARD ONE OF OUR DEPARTING AERO-VANS!

NO NEED TO TREAT THEM GENTLY!

WE'RE TAKING THEM WHERE WE TOOK THE OTHERS! TO THE CAMP OF THE DAMNED!

IT IS NOT THE FIRST OF ITS KIND SEEN ON EARTH! BUT DESAAD IS THE MASTER OF THIS ONE!

EVEN AS JUSTIFIERS MAKE A MOCKERY OF LIFE--DESAAD PLAYS WITH DEATH AS IF IT WERE A FINE ART!

I WONDER WHAT SORT OF MASTERPIECES HE'LL MAKE OF THESE BRATS!

I TRUST THIS CAMP OF YOURS IS SERVING THE PURPOSE THAT OVERRIDES ALL OTHERS, DESAAD!

IF THE MIND YOU SEEK TO CONTACT IS AMONG THOSE AT MY CAMP, IT SHALL SOON GIVE UP ITS SECRET, GREAT DARKSEID!

BUT SURELY YOU CAN'T MEAN--

SURELY NOT EVEN THE GREAT *DARKSEID* BELIEVES IN THE EXISTENCE OF THE *ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!*
I LIKE YOU, *GLORIOUS GODFREY!* YOU'RE A SHALLOW, PRECIOUS CHILD-- THE *REVELATIONIST*-- HAPPY WITH THE SWEEPING SOUND OF *WORDS!*
BUT *I AM THE REVELATION!* THE *TIGER-FORCE* AT THE CORE OF ALL THINGS! WHEN YOU CRY OUT IN YOUR DREAMS-- IT IS *DARKSEID* THAT YOU SEE!
WHY, IF ONE COULD *MASTER* SUCH AN EQUATION--HE COULD *CONTROL* THE MINDS OF *ALL* LIVING THINGS IN THE UNIVERSE-- WITH A *MERE* WORD!
I-I *BELIEVE* IN *ANTI-LIFE*, GREAT *DARKSEID*--BUT IT CAN ONLY BE INDUCED IN OTHERS BY THE MEANS OF *INVENTIVE SELLING!*
21

THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION EXISTS! LOCKED IN THE MIND OF SOMEONE HERE ON EARTH!--AND ONLY I DARE REACH FOR IT!
I SHALL CREATE CHAOS HERE! SHAKE UP THE PLANET!--SHAKE UP THAT MIND!

I HAVE MANY SERVITORS TO HELP ME DO THAT! EACH WITH HIS OWN METHODS, EH, DESAAD?
YOU FAVOR HIM ALWAYS, GREAT DARKSEID! THINK OF WHAT MY JUSTIFIERS DO IN YOUR CAUSE!
I BEG TO DEPART FROM THIS PETTY SITUATION, SIRE!

YOU'RE A LOUD, PETULANT BUMPKIN, GODFREY! LIKE ALL REVELATIONISTS, YOU'VE GOT IMAGINATION--BUT NOT FINESSE!
BUT I, GOOD GODFREY, HAVE BOTH! I LEAVE NOW FOR MY "CAMP," WHICH DARKSEID KNOWS IS TERROR, REFINED TO PERFECTION!

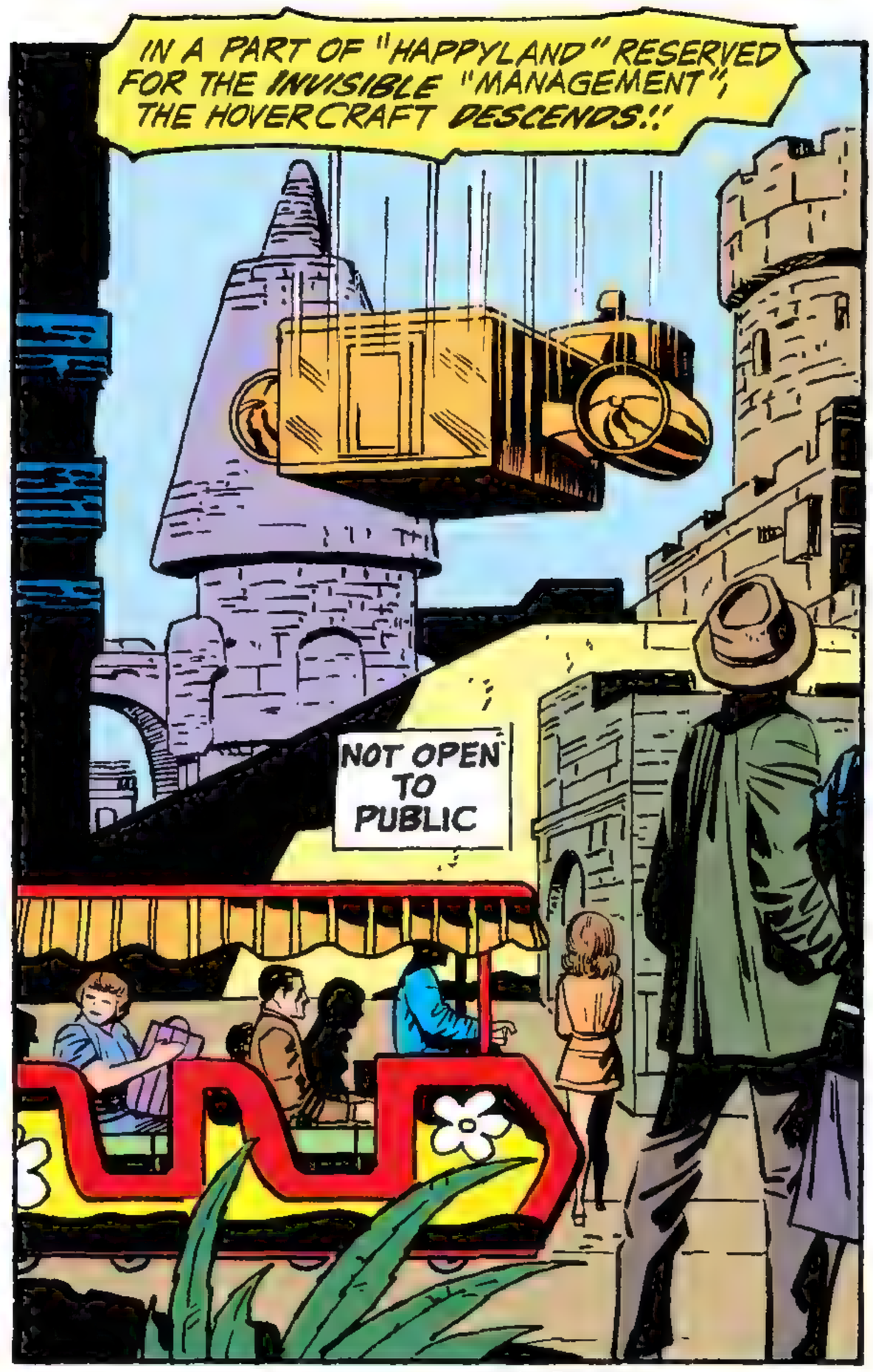
DESAAD IS SOON ON HIS WAY--ABOARD THE SAME AERO-VAN THAT CARRIES HIS CAPTIVES--THE YOUNG FOREVER PEOPLE!
BUT THEIR DESTINATION IS THE MOST BIZARRE AND TERRIFYING STRUCTURE EVER SEEN BY THE EYES OF MAN!
IT IS DESAAD'S OWN LITTLE DOMAIN ON EARTH--A PILOT PROJECT OF PURGATORY--WHERE TORMENT IS COMPUTED--DEATH IS CONTROLLED--AND ESCAPE IMPOSSIBLE! DON'T MISS--
Kingdom OF THE DAMNED!

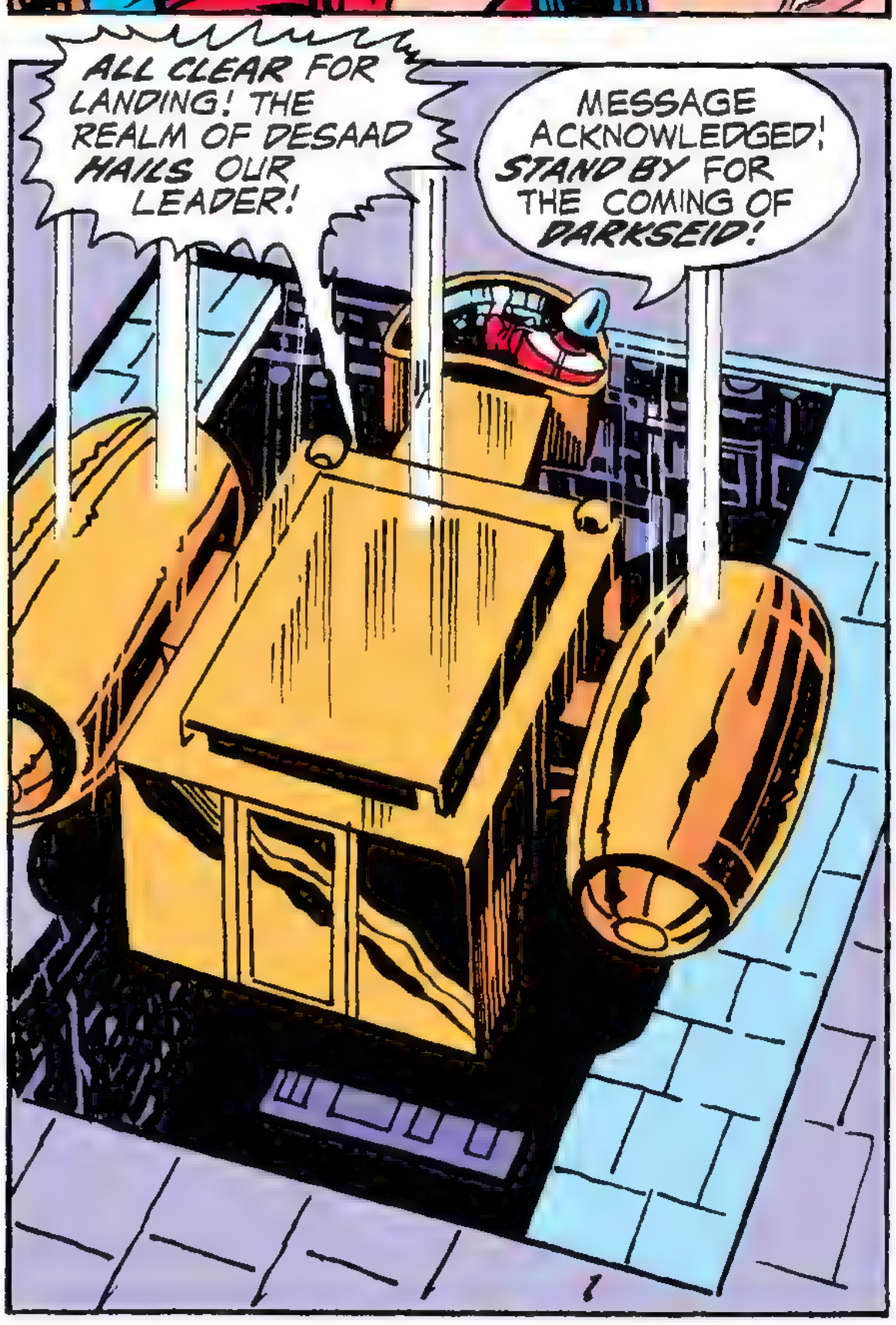
KIRBY'S FOURTH WORLD of the
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
DC THE FOREVER PEOPLE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
No. 4
SEPT.
30160
bigger & better
MEET DESAAD! HE KNOWS WHAT HE IS--AND LOVES IT!!
ALIENATION TURNS A HAPPY PLACE INTO HELL!
READ "KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED!"

THE KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED IS NOT A FAR PLACE! IT'S NOT A HIDDEN PLACE! IT'S IN FULL VIEW OF US ALL! BUT, IT HAS BEEN RIGGED BY A MALIGNANT FORCE SO THAT ITS TORMENTED INMATES ARE SEEN AND HEARD--AND IGNORED!!
THEY CAN HEAR US, TOO! THERE'S A SPEAKER SYSTEM UP THERE! WHY DON'T THEY RESPOND!
I DON'T KNOW! THEY MUST SEE US THROUGH THAT GLASS WINDOW!
ISN'T THERE ANY HOPE? WHY WON'T THEY RESCUE US?
HELP! HELP! WE'RE PRISONERS!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM? WHY CAN'T THEY SEE OUR DESPERATE SITUATION?
YOU, OUT THERE! HELP! HELP! HELP!

AND WHO AMONG US WOULD RUSH TO AID THE VICTIMS OF THIS CRUELTY--WHEN THE SIGHTS WE SEE AND THE SOUNDS WE HEAR ARE BRIGHT AND JOYOUS? FOR ARE WE NOT IN "HAPPYLAND"--CONCEIVED IN A WORLD CALLED APOKOLIPS--AND BUILT ON EARTH BY THE SUBTLE, THE CLEVER--THE EVIL--DESAAD?
HA HA HAHAHA HAHAHA
CASTLE OF WONDERS
HAPPYLAN
THE MASTER "SCRAMBLER" IS WORKING SMOOTHLY! THE FOOLS TRAPPED IN THAT IMAGE LITTLE REALIZE THAT WE ARE DISTORTING THEIR CRIES INTO LAUGHTER!
LIKE US, THESE HUMANS ARE SERVING THE NEEDS OF DESAAD! BUT I'M CERTAIN THAT HE FINDS THEM MORE ENTER-TAINING!
BUT WHAT CAN DESAAD BE PLANNING THAT BRINGS THE GREAT DARKSEID TO THIS PLACE? THE CRAFT BEARING HIM APPROACHES NOW!
2
3

AT THAT MOMENT, ONE OF THE STRANGE HOVERCRAFT THAT SERVICE "HAPPYLAND." ARRIVES WITH A CARGO OF HIGHEST PRIORITY!
HEADS UP, JUNIOR! THERE'S ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE AIRCRAFT!
I CAN SEE THE AIR-JETS ON THE UNDERSIDE OF IT, DAD! SEE 'EM?


IN A PART OF "HAPPYLAND" RESERVED FOR THE INVISIBLE "MANAGEMENT", THE HOVERCRAFT DESCENDS!!
NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC


ALL CLEAR FOR LANDING! THE REALM OF DESAAD HAILS OUR LEADER!
MESSAGE ACKNOWLEDGED! STAND BY FOR THE COMING OF DARKSEID!

OUR MASTER, DESAAD, AWAITS YOU, GREAT DARKSEID! HE PREPARES A MOST INTERESTING FEAT IN YOUR HONOR!
IF THIS INVOLVES MERE CRUELTY, I MAY NOT BE AMUSED! HOWEVER, YOU MAY LEAD ME TO DESAAD!
THIS WAY, SIRE!
4

WHAT DARKSEID IS ABOUT TO SEE COULD **NOT** HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE CAPTURE OF THE **VALIANT** FEW WHO DARED AND FAILED IN THEIR ATTACK ON A STRONGHOLD OF THE FORCES OF **APOKOLIPS!** NOW, IMPRISONED IN THE **UNSEEN** WARRENS OF "HAPPYLAND", OUR YOUNG CAPTIVES FROM **SUPERTOWN** AWAIT THEIR FATE AT THE HANDS OF **DESAAD**--WHO HAS HIS OWN **SPECIAL** PLANS FOR THE

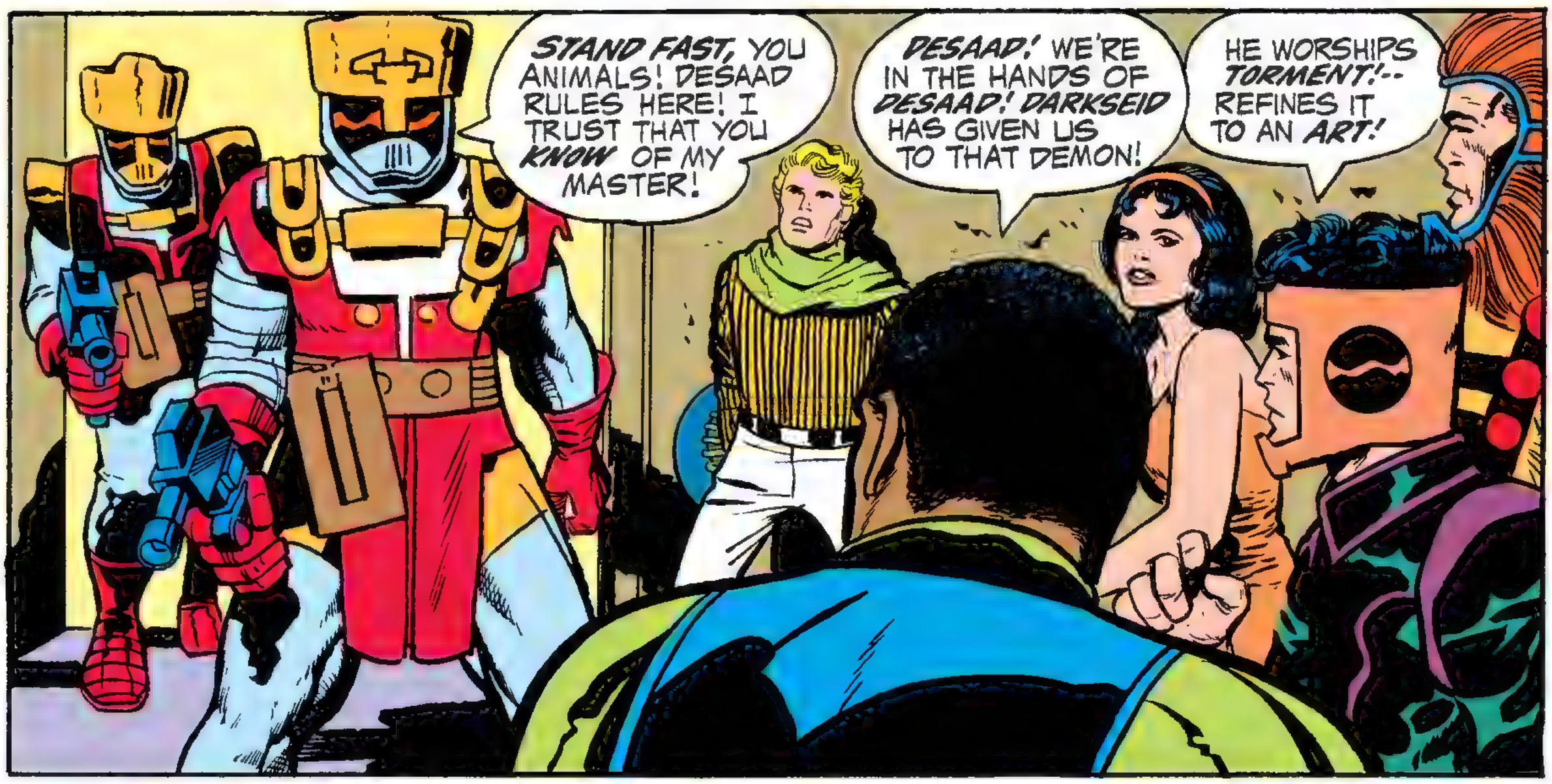
FOREVER PEOPLE!

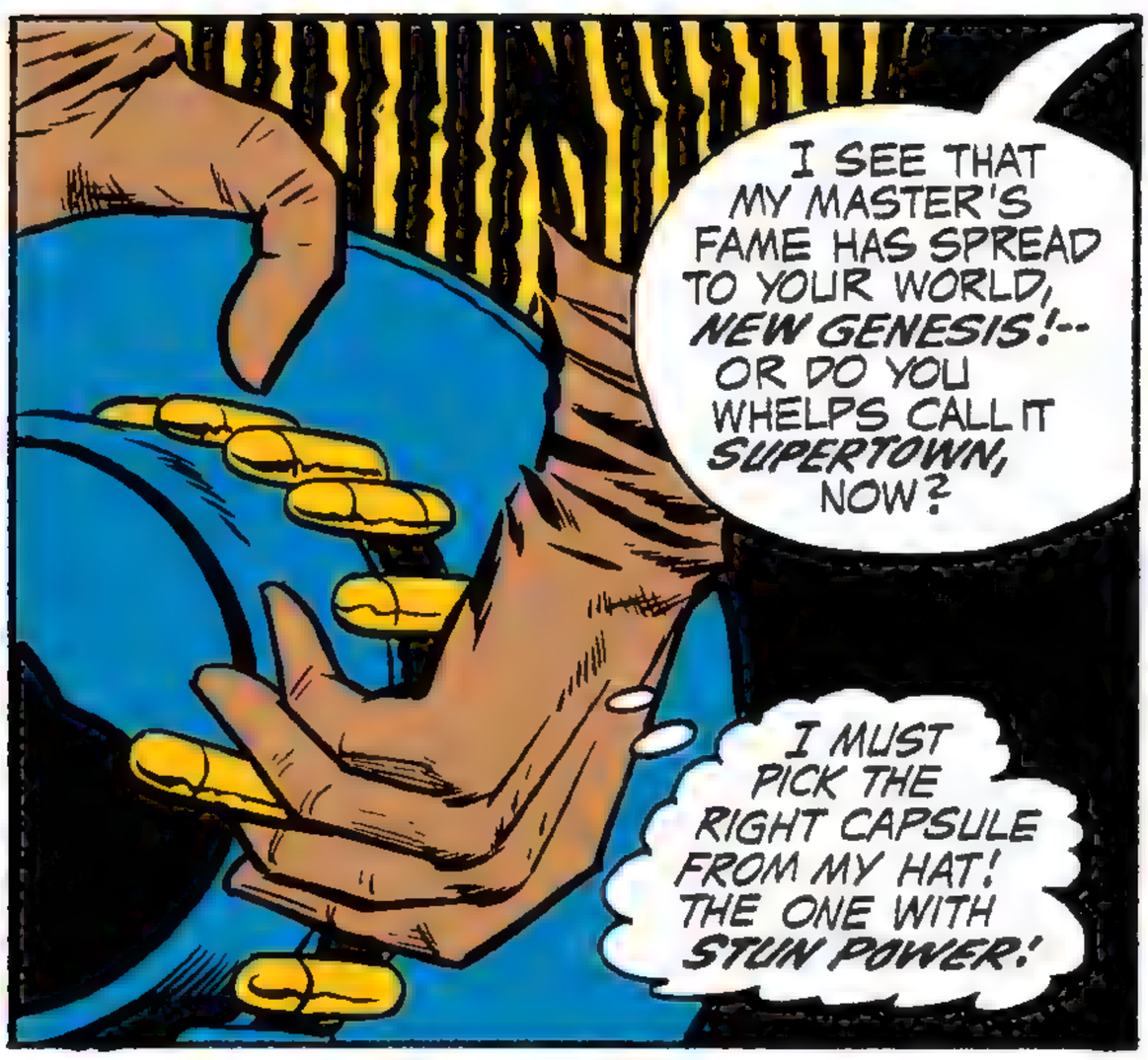
OUR ENEMY SERVES DARKSEID! WE CAN AGREE ON THAT!
OUR ENEMY HAS CONFINED US IN A CELL WITH A COMPLEX ATOMIC STRUCTURE!
IT DEFIES MY STRENGTH!
IF THE WALL WON'T YIELD TO BIG BEAR-- WE ARE IN TROUBLE!

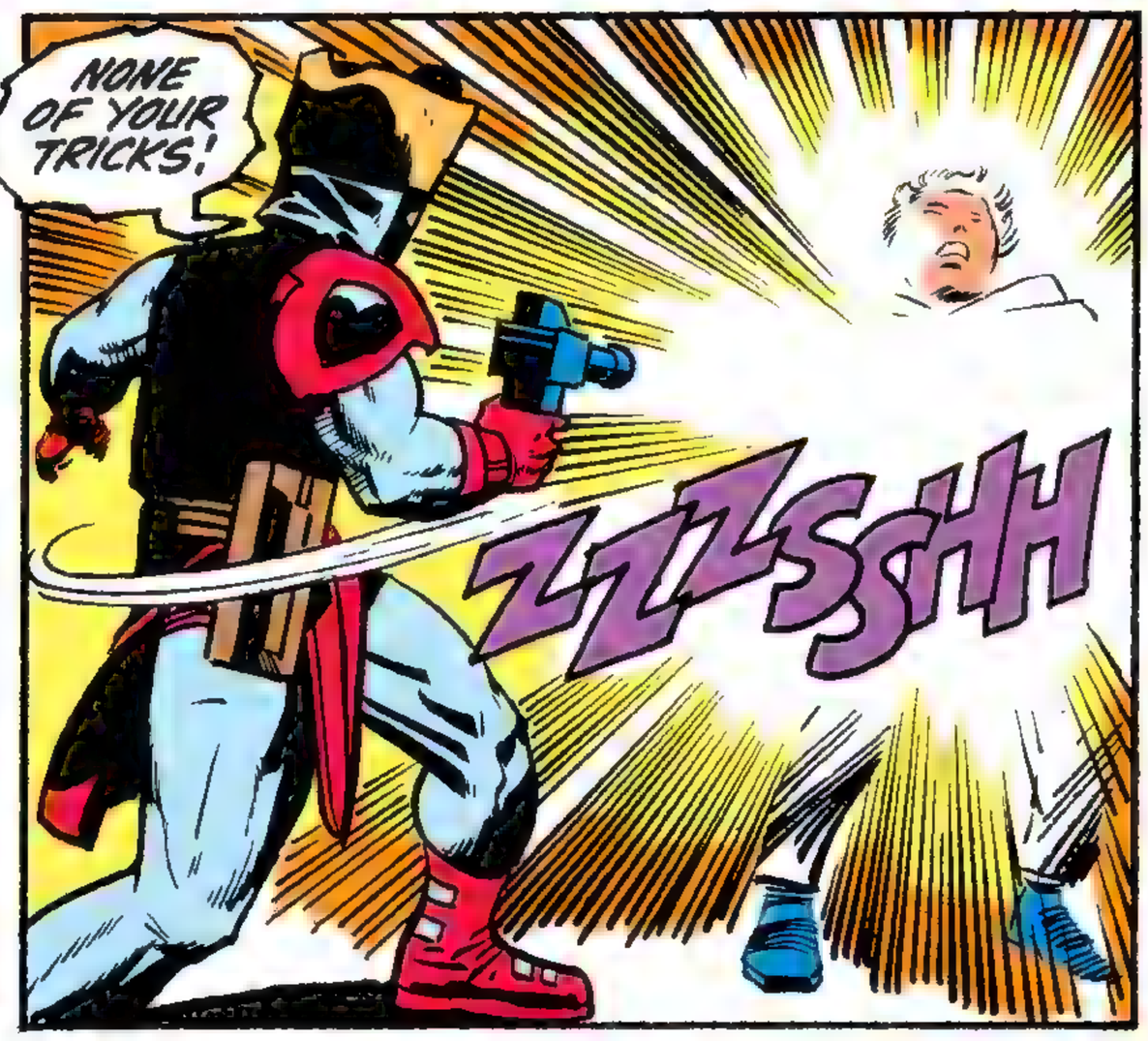
NOW, WE WERE BROUGHT HERE BY UNKNOWN MEANS AND IN AN UNCONSCIOUS STATE! ALL THIS WAS THE RESULT OF OUR INVADING THE GIANT TENT OF GLORIOUS GODFREY, WHO PREACHES "ANTI-LIFE!"
HIS HOST OF "JUSTIFIERS" WERE THERE-- ARMED AND HOSTILE!!
AND SO, TO MATCH THEIR MIGHT, WE USED MOTHER BOX TO EVOKE THE INFINITY MAN!

THE INFINITY MAN FAILED US! BECAUSE ONLY ONE COULD STAND AGAINST HIS POWER-- DARKSEID HIMSELF! DARKSEID WAS THERE!
NOW INFINITY MAN IS GONE! AND DARKSEID HAS US AND MOTHER BOX!

MY HELMET INDICATOR REGISTERS A STRONG IMPULSE FROM MOTHER BOX! SHE IS SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY!
6

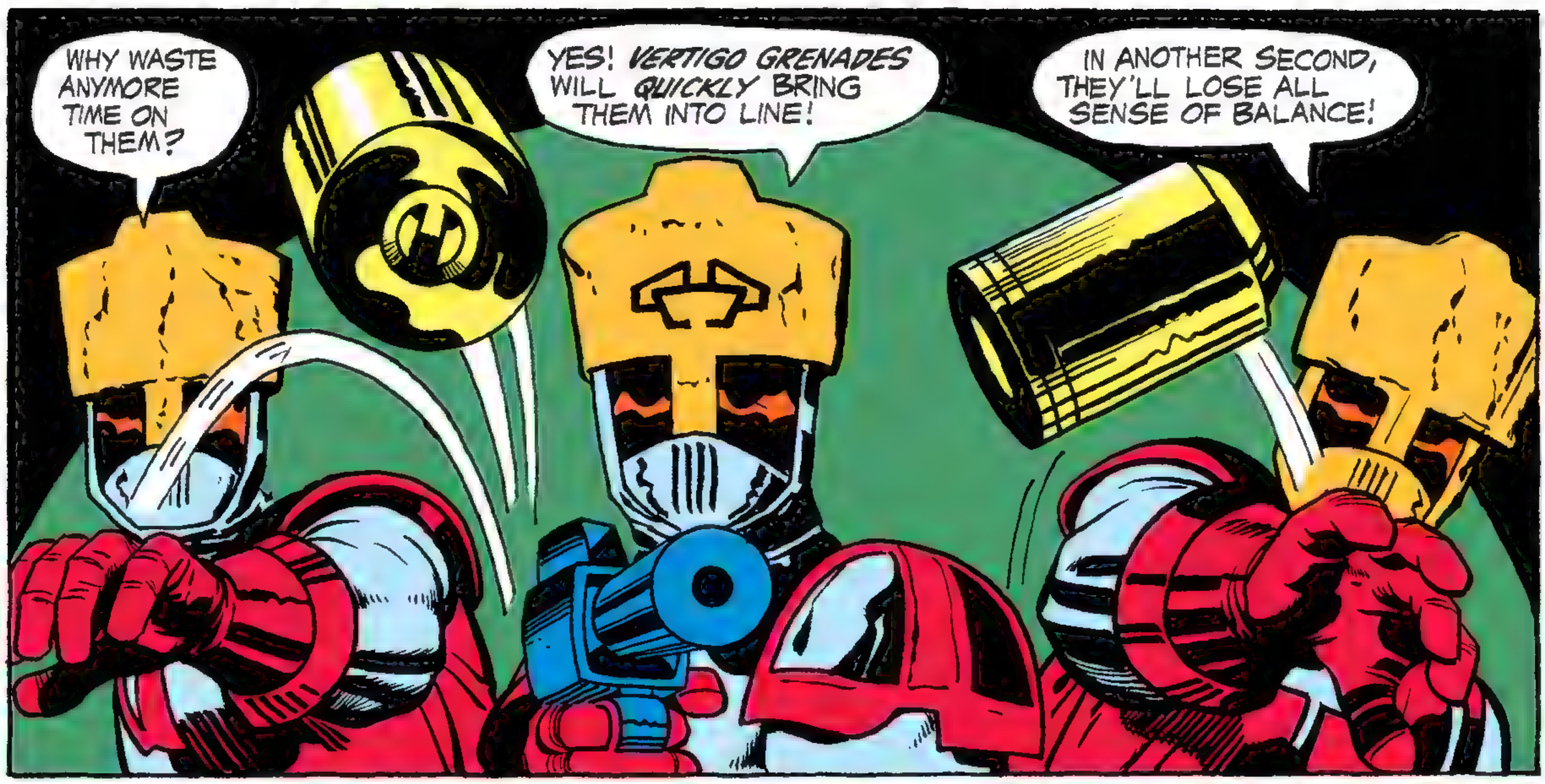

STAND FAST, YOU ANIMALS! DESAAD RULES HERE! I TRUST THAT YOU KNOW OF MY MASTER!
DESAAD! WE'RE IN THE HANDS OF DESAAD! DARKSEID HAS GIVEN US TO THAT DEMON!
HE WORSHIPS TORMENT!-- REFINES IT TO AN ART!


I SEE THAT MY MASTER'S FAME HAS SPREAD TO YOUR WORLD, NEW GENESIS!-- OR DO YOU WHELPS CALL IT SUPERTOWN, NOW?
I MUST PICK THE RIGHT CAPSULE FROM MY HAT! THE ONE WITH STUN POWER!

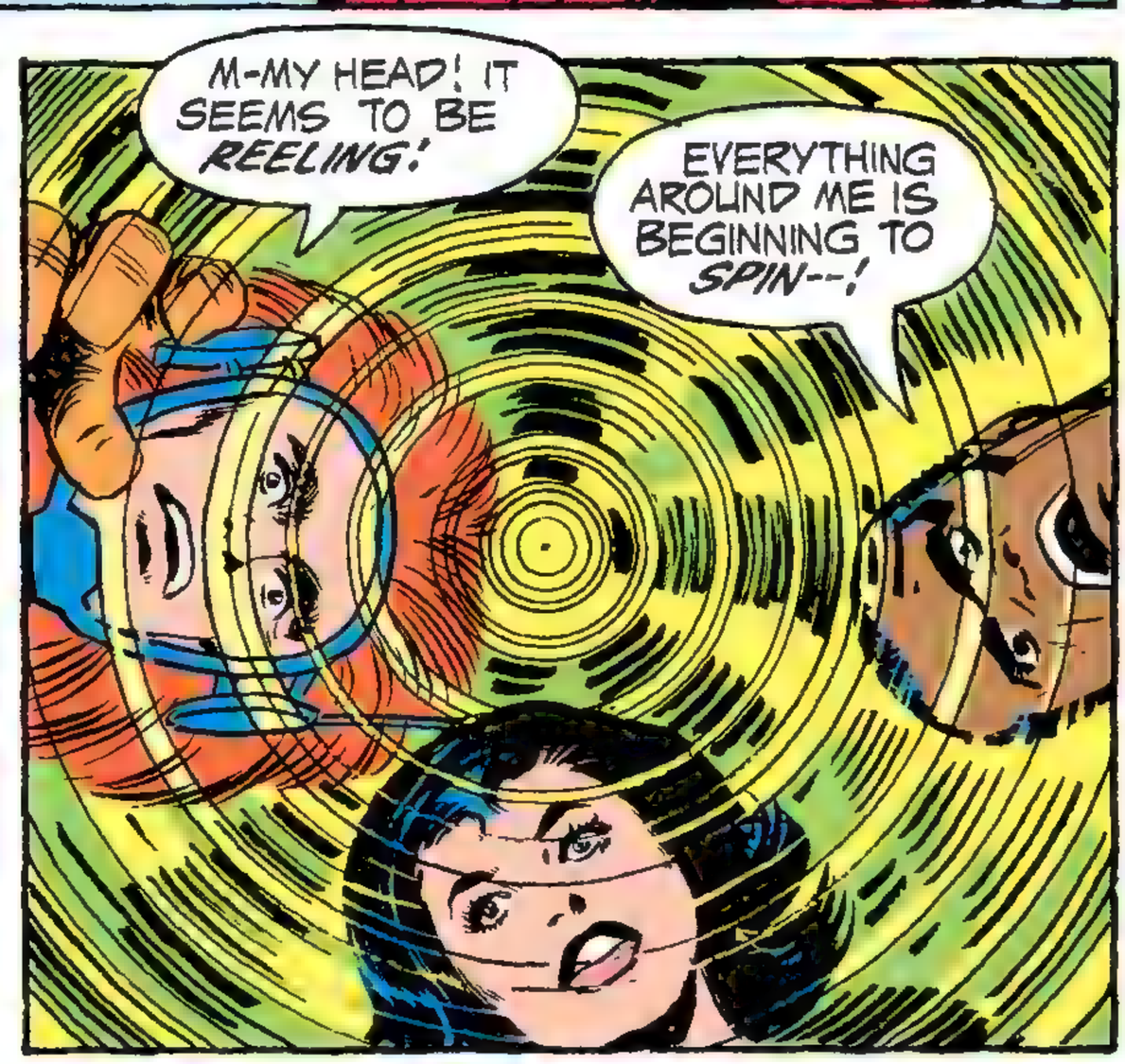

NONE OF YOUR TRICKS!
ZZZSSHH

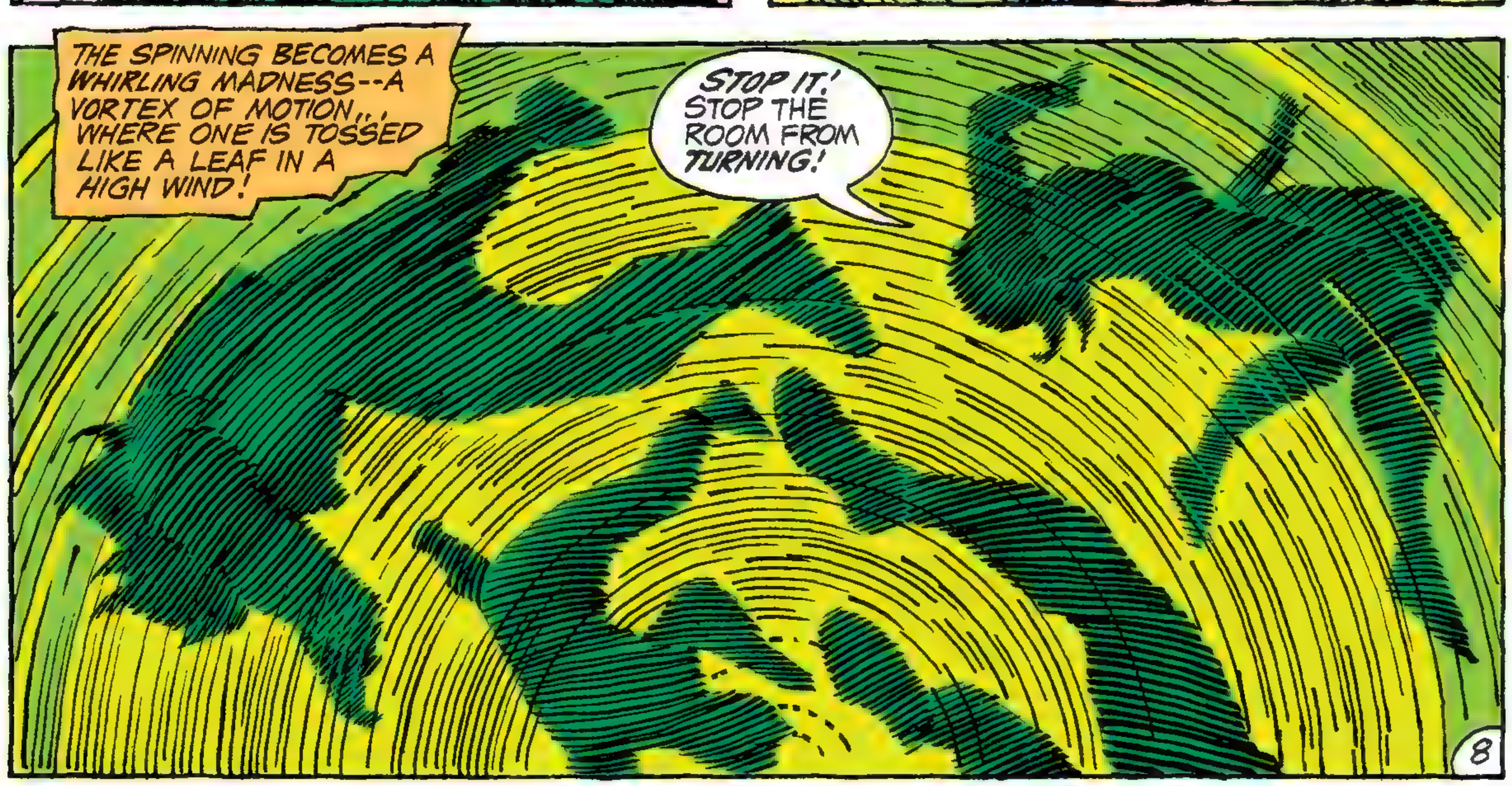
SERIFAN! YOU'VE HURT SERIFAN!
MY NERVE BEAM IS USED WHEN A LESSON MUST BE TAUGHT!

WHA--?
WE KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU! ALL OF YOUR CLEVER DEFENSES!
7


WHY WASTE ANYMORE TIME ON THEM?
YES! VERTIGO GRENADES WILL QUICKLY BRING THEM INTO LINE!
IN ANOTHER SECOND, THEY'LL LOSE ALL SENSE OF BALANCE!

THE GRENADES CREATE A STRANGE LIGHT AS THEY FALL--AND EMIT AN EVEN STRANGER SOUND!
SFIK


M-MY HEAD! IT SEEMS TO BE REELING!
EVERYTHING AROUND ME IS BEGINNING TO SPIN--!

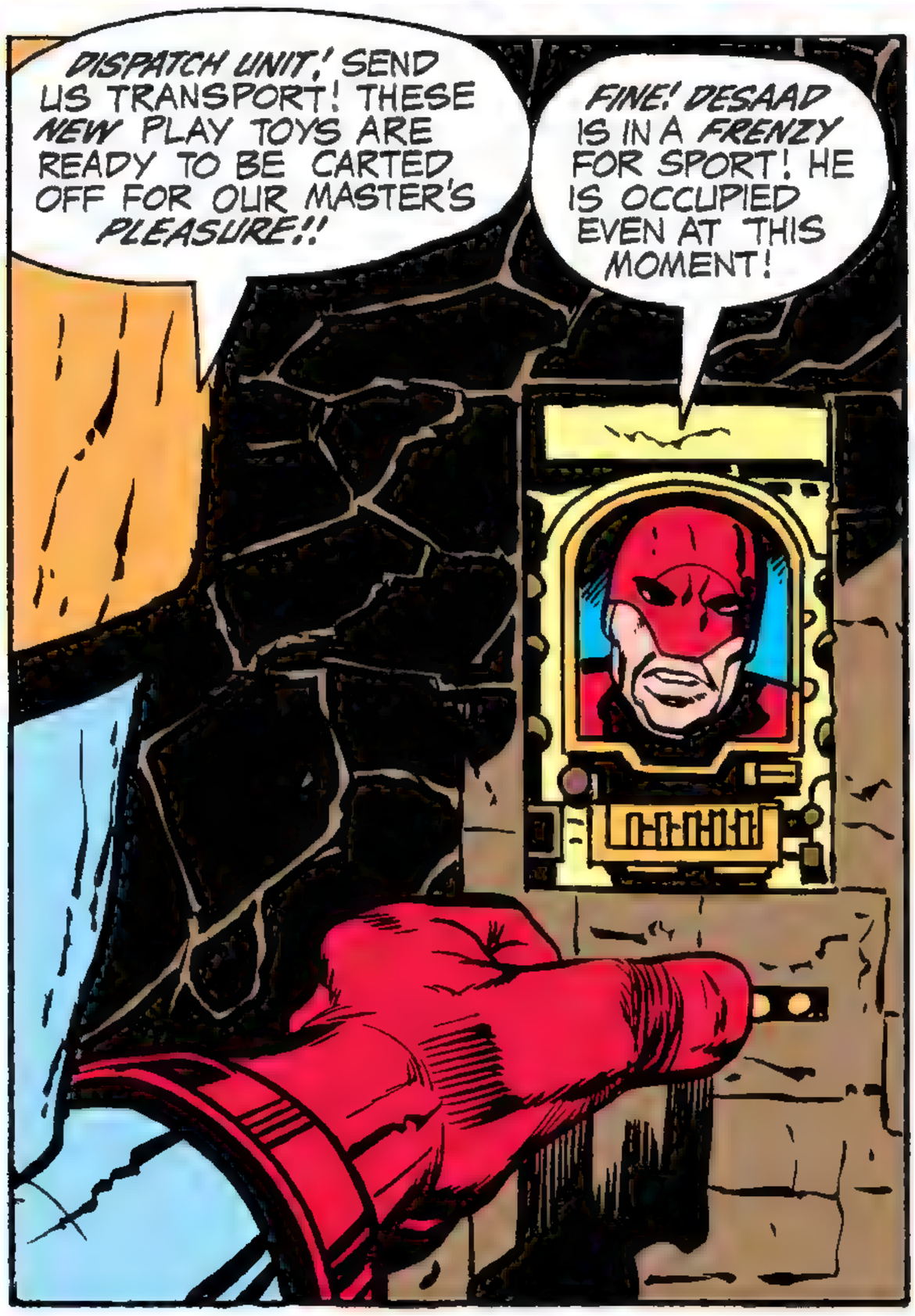

THE SPINNING BECOMES A WHIRLING MADNESS--A VORTEX OF MOTION... WHERE ONE IS TOSSED LIKE A LEAF IN A HIGH WIND!
STOP IT! STOP THE ROOM FROM TURNING!
8

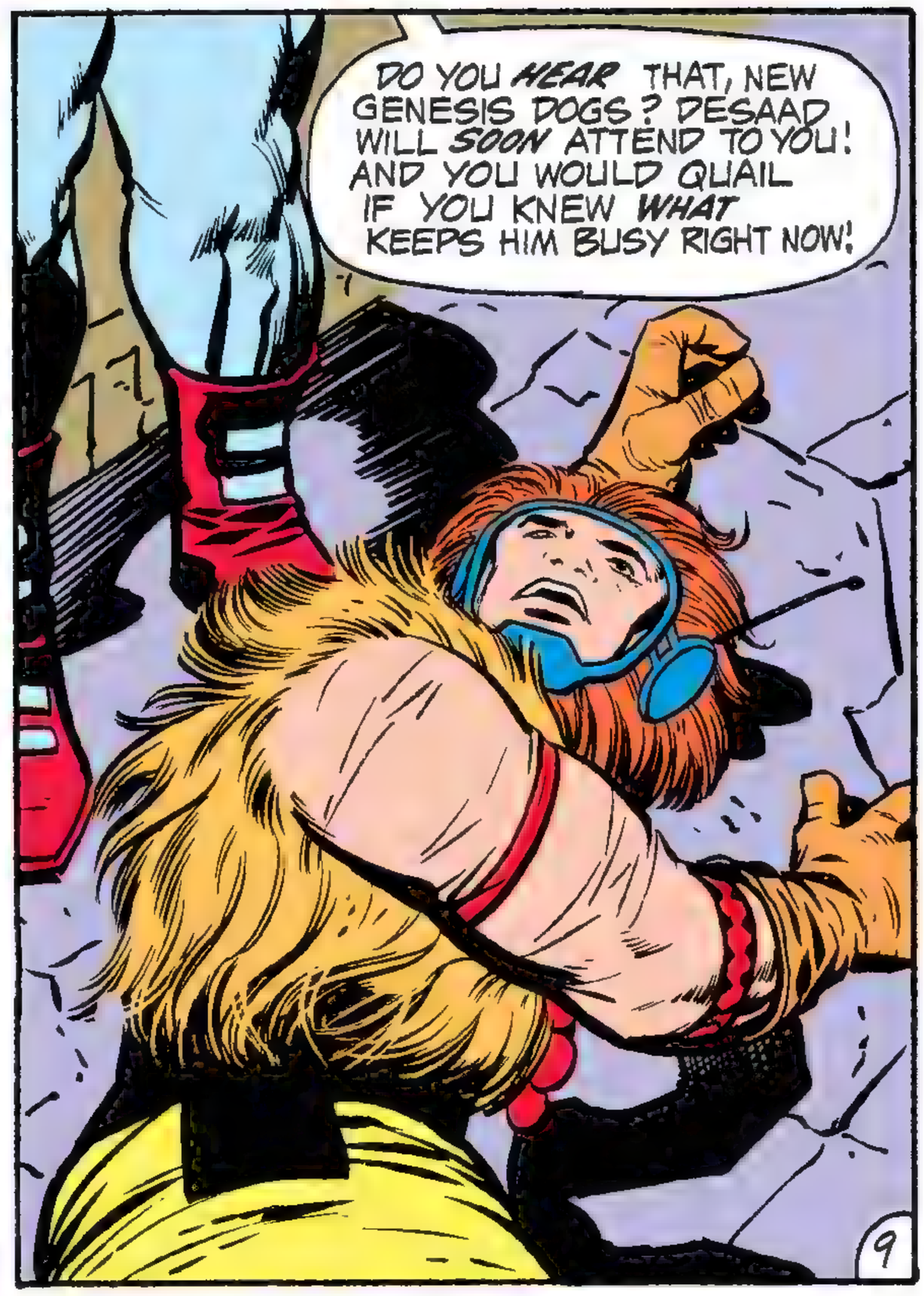
WHEN THE EFFECT SLOWS DOWN, THE VICTIMS' SENSES ARE STILL IN THE GRIP OF VIOLENT INERTIA!

HA! THEY CAN'T TELL *WHICH* DIRECTION "*UP*" OR "*DOWN*" IS!

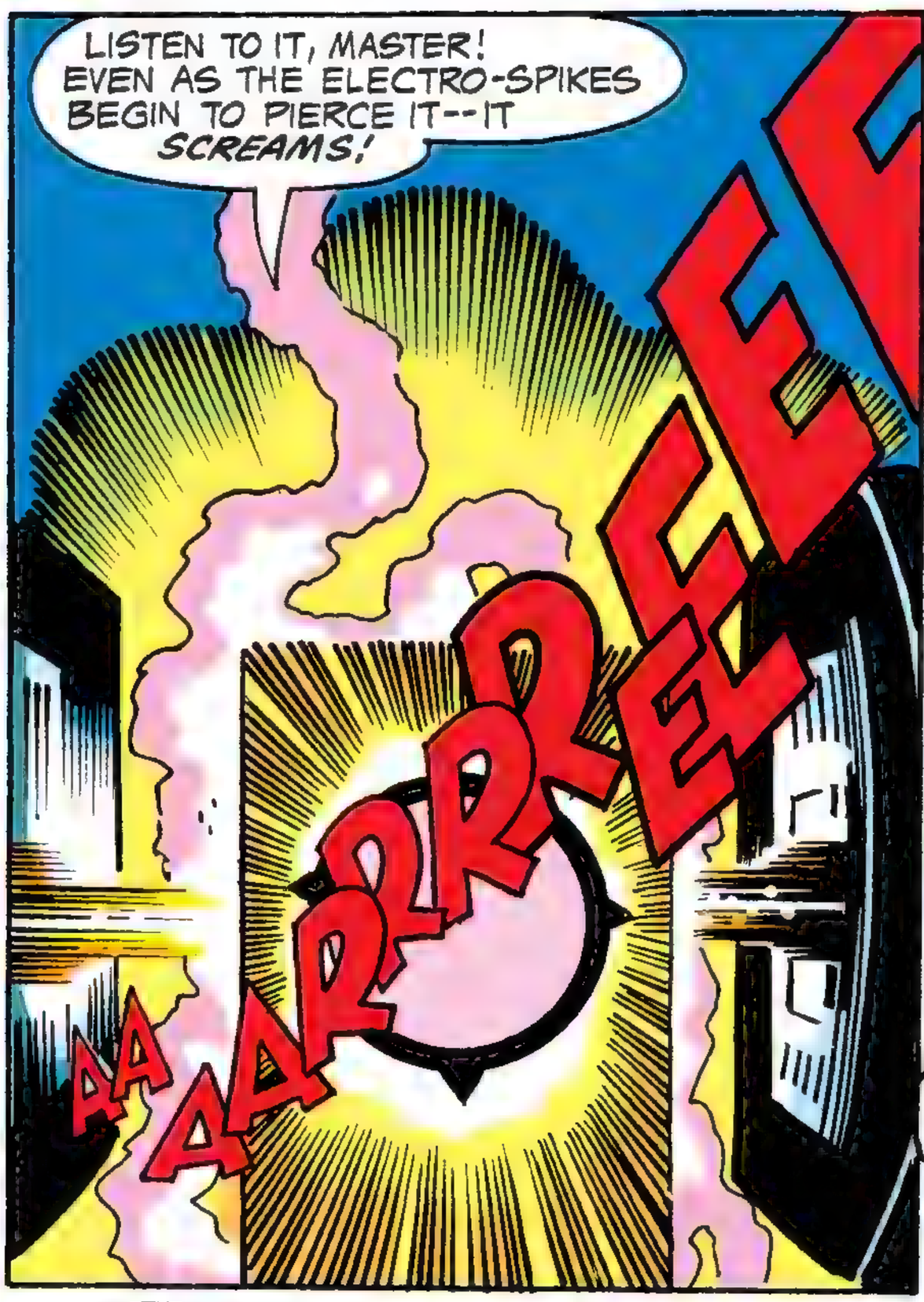
THEY'RE *EASIER* TO HANDLE NOW! DESAAD LIKES *EFFICIENCY!*

CAN'T--RISE--TO--MY--FEET--! CAN'T GAIN MY--BALANCE!





AND, IN A PRIVATE CHAMBER--
THE MURDER OF A MOTHER BOX! I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO ATTEMPT IT, DESAAD!
THIS SHOULD PROVE AMUSING INDEED!
BEAR WITH ME, GREAT DARKSEID! MY TECHNICIANS HAVE LABORED FEVERISHLY TO FASHION THE PROTECTIVE HOOD AND KILLING GLOVES FOR MY EXECUTIONER!
NOW, THE MOTHER BOX IS COMPLETELY AT MY MERCY--LIKE ITS COMPANIONS--THE FOREVER PEOPLE!
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
THE THING REACTS, MASTER!--AS IF IT REGISTERS FEAR! IT DOES HAVE A CERTAIN CLAIM TO--LIFE!
10



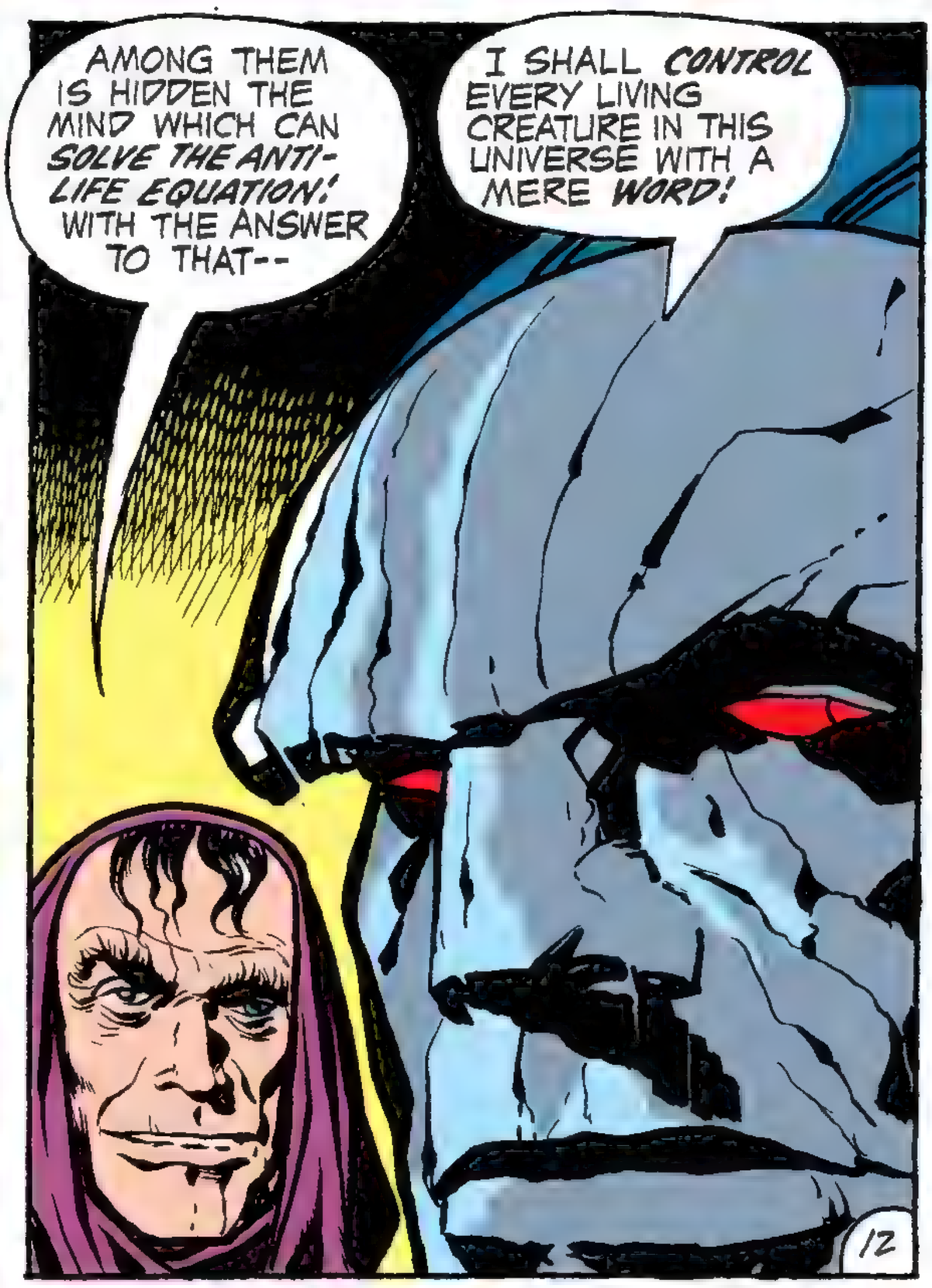
THE *MOTHER BOX* HAS *VANISHED!* THEY *ALWAYS* DO THAT!

NO! IT *DISINTEGRATED!* THAT'S IT! I'VE MADE IT COMMIT SUICIDE! *HAHAHAHAHA!*

YOU CROW TOO SOON AND TOO LOUDLY, DESAAD! DOES THE MOTHER BOX VANISH--OR DISINTEGRATE? YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW! NOR DO I!
A MOTHER BOX IS LINKED TO THE INFINITE! AND MADE TO PLAGUE US!
FORGIVE ME, GREAT DARKSEID! IN MY ZEAL TO PLEASE YOU, I MAY HAVE CHOSEN THE WRONG SUBJECT!

BUT I DO HOLD THE FOREVER PEOPLE! PERHAPS YOU MIGHT JOIN IN WATCHING THEM THRASH ABOUT IN MY NET!
NO, DESAAD! I'M LEAVING! WHEN ONE CAMPAIGNS FOR CONTROL OF ALL LIVING CREATURES, HE DOESN'T STOP TO TOY WITH A FEW!
YOUR CRAFT AWAITS, SIRE!

SAVE ME FROM CEREMONIAL DEPARTURES! I SHALL GO LEISURELY! OUTSIDE!-- AMONG THE HAPPY THRONGS AT "HAPPYLAND!"
LIKE ALL GREAT LEADERS, SIRE, YOU HAVE THE "COMMON TOUCH!" ARE THEY NOT YOUR FUTURE SLAVES?


AMONG THEM IS HIDDEN THE MIND WHICH CAN SOLVE THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION! WITH THE ANSWER TO THAT--
I SHALL CONTROL EVERY LIVING CREATURE IN THIS UNIVERSE WITH A MERE WORD!
12

A MOMENT LATER, DARKSEID WALKS BOLDLY OUT AMONG THE HUMANS OF EARTH.

WHERE *IS* THAT MIND I SEEK? *WHY* DOESN'T IT SURFACE--WHERE THE MECHANISMS AT MY COMMAND CAN *LOCATE* IT!

LOOK, TOMMY! THERE'S A REAL, LIVE *SPACEMAN* FROM THE GALAXY EXHIBIT!

DARKSEID IS PATIENT! HE WIELDS THE POWER OF *APOKOLIPS!* ITS VAST RESOURCES HAVE BUILT "HAPPYLAND"!-- TO INDULGE *VAIN* DESAAD! PERHAPS EVEN *HIS* CRUEL PRACTICES AMONG THE HUMANS-- WILL *SHAKE OUT* THE MIND I SEEK!

GRANDPA! THAT MAN IS *SCARY!* MAKE HIM GO *AWAY!*

HUSH, CHILD! IT'S *NOT* POLITE TO EMBARRASS STRANGERS!

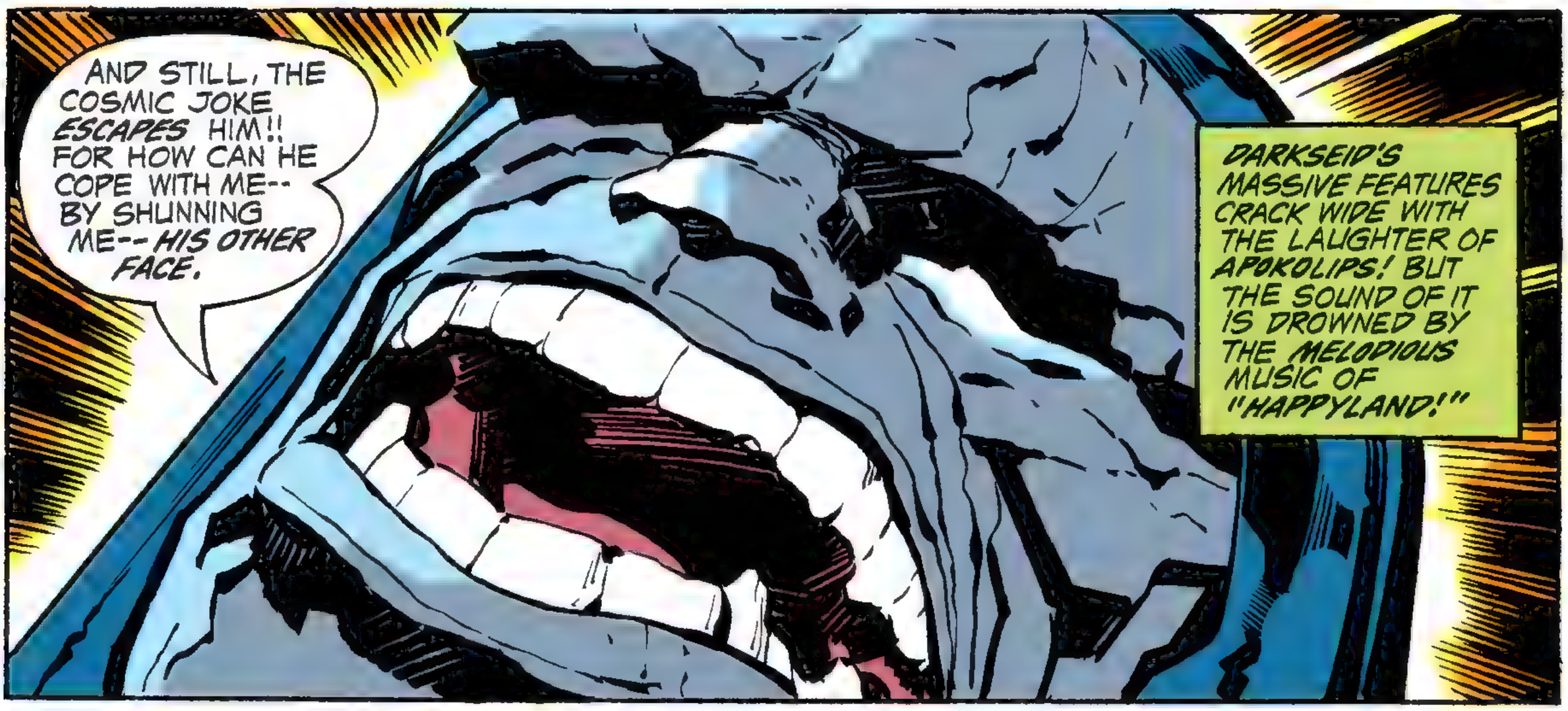
I'M *AFRAID,* GRANDPA!

WHY THIS GENTLEMAN IS PROBABLY IN THE CAST OF SOME *SHOW,* HERE! AREN'T YOU, SIR?

NO, GRANDPA! I'M THE *REAL* THING!

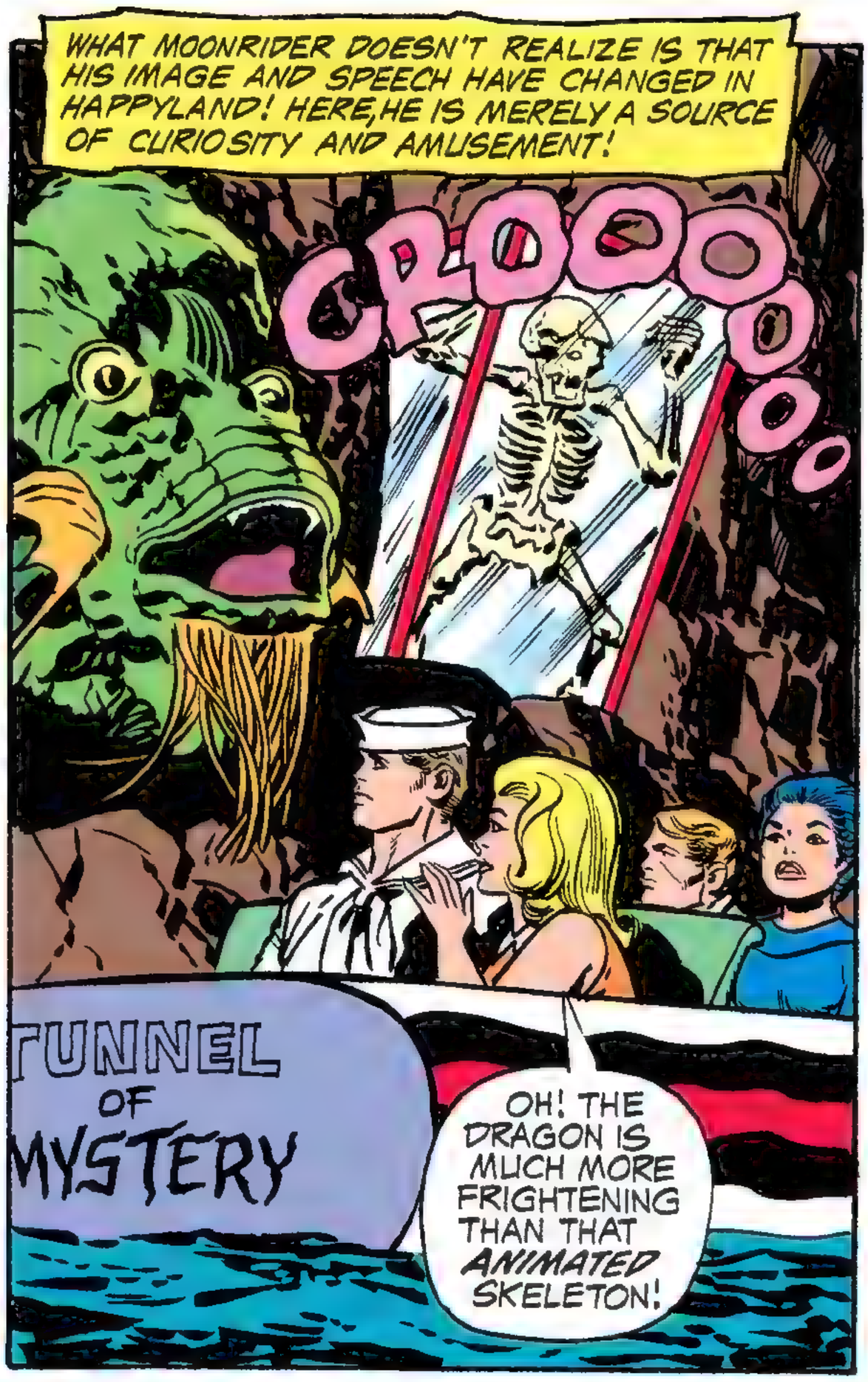
THIS IS NO TIME FOR JOKES, FRIEND! CAN'T YOU SEE THIS CHILD IS FRIGHTENED?
OF COURSE, FRIEND! ALL YOUNG HUMANS RECOGNIZE THE REAL THING WHEN THEY SEE IT!

YOUNG HUMANS SEE ME-- EVEN IN "HAPPYLAND!" BUT YOU ELDERS HIDE ME WITH "COCK AND BULL" STORIES TO KEEP THE PREMISES SMELLING SWEET!
FOOL!


AND STILL, THE COSMIC JOKE ESCAPES HIM!! FOR HOW CAN HE COPE WITH ME-- BY SHUNNING ME-- HIS OTHER FACE.
DARKSEID'S MASSIVE FEATURES CRACK WIDE WITH THE LAUGHTER OF APOKOLIPS! BUT THE SOUND OF IT IS DROWNED BY THE MELODIOUS MUSIC OF "HAPPYLAND!"

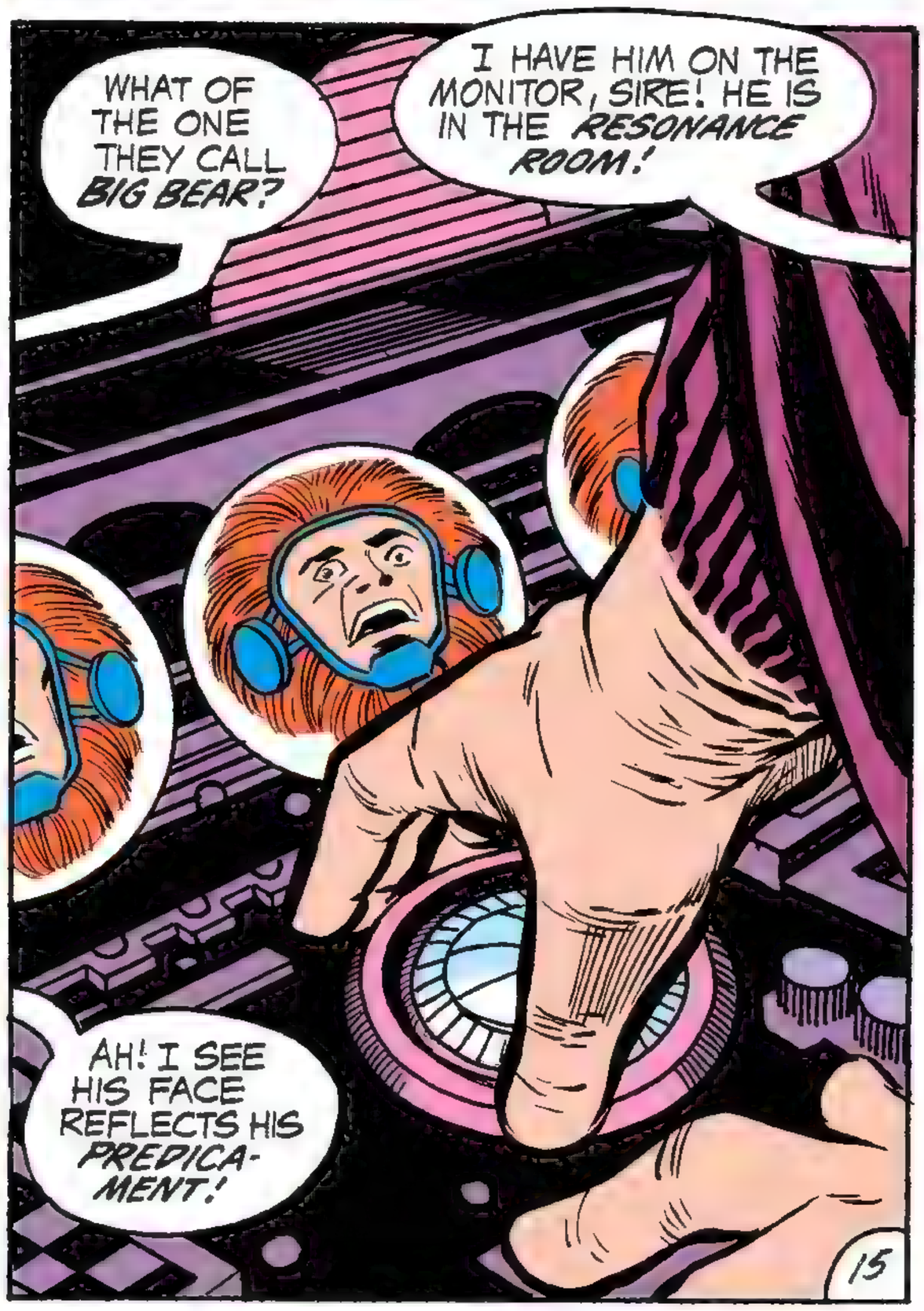
AND THAT IS THE INSIDIOUS CHARM OF "HAPPYLAND"! FOR MOONRIDER, IT'S NOW AN UNBREAKABLE, TRANSPARENT CAGE!
HELP! YOU OUT THERE! HELP ME!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME THROUGH THIS OPENING! WHY DO YOU JUST SIT AND STARE?
14

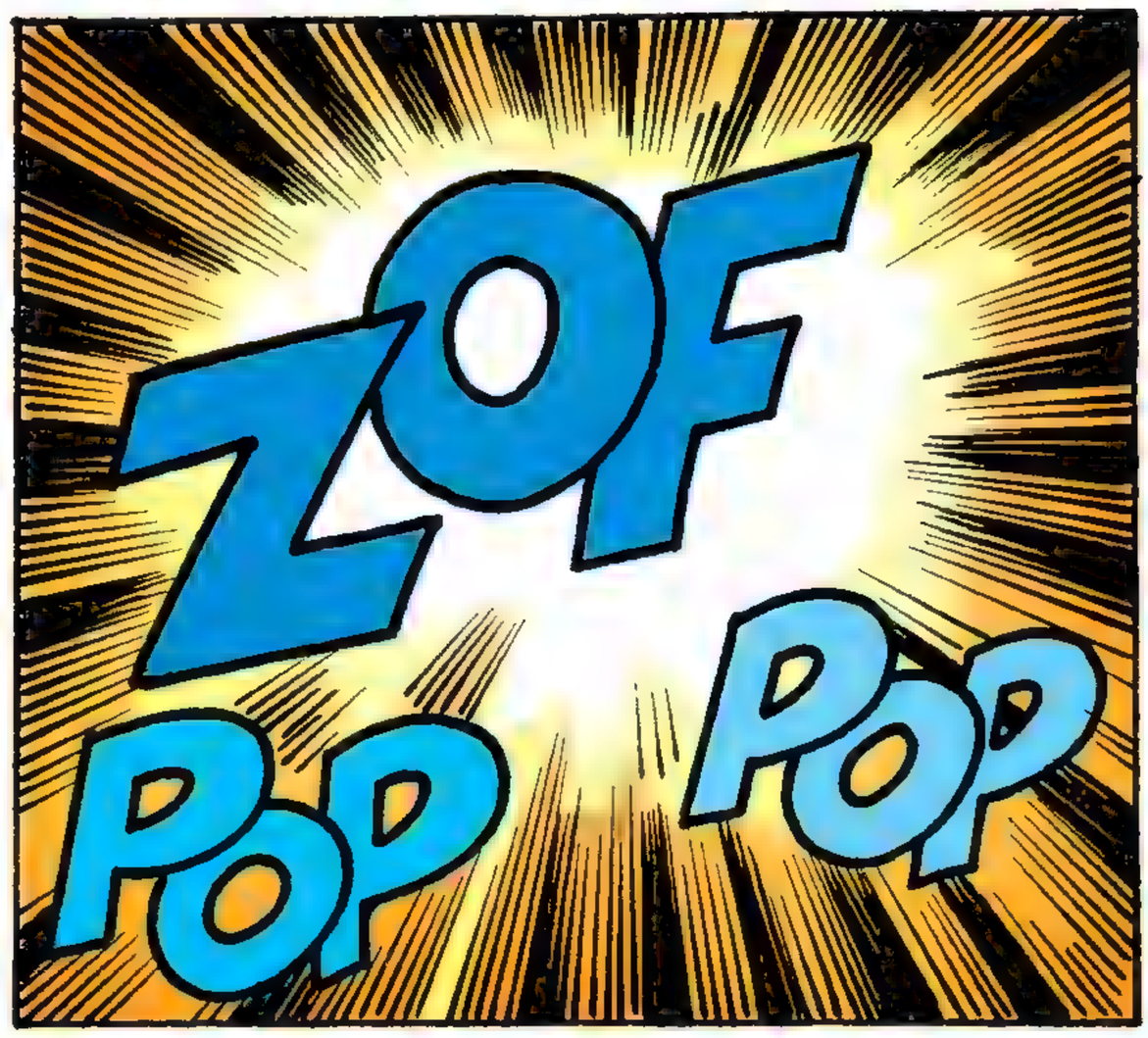

WHAT MOONRIDER DOESN'T REALIZE IS THAT HIS IMAGE AND SPEECH HAVE CHANGED IN HAPPYLAND! HERE, HE IS MERELY A SOURCE OF CURIOSITY AND AMUSEMENT!
CRUOOOOO
TUNNEL OF MYSTERY
OH! THE DRAGON IS MUCH MORE FRIGHTENING THAN THAT ANIMATED SKELETON!

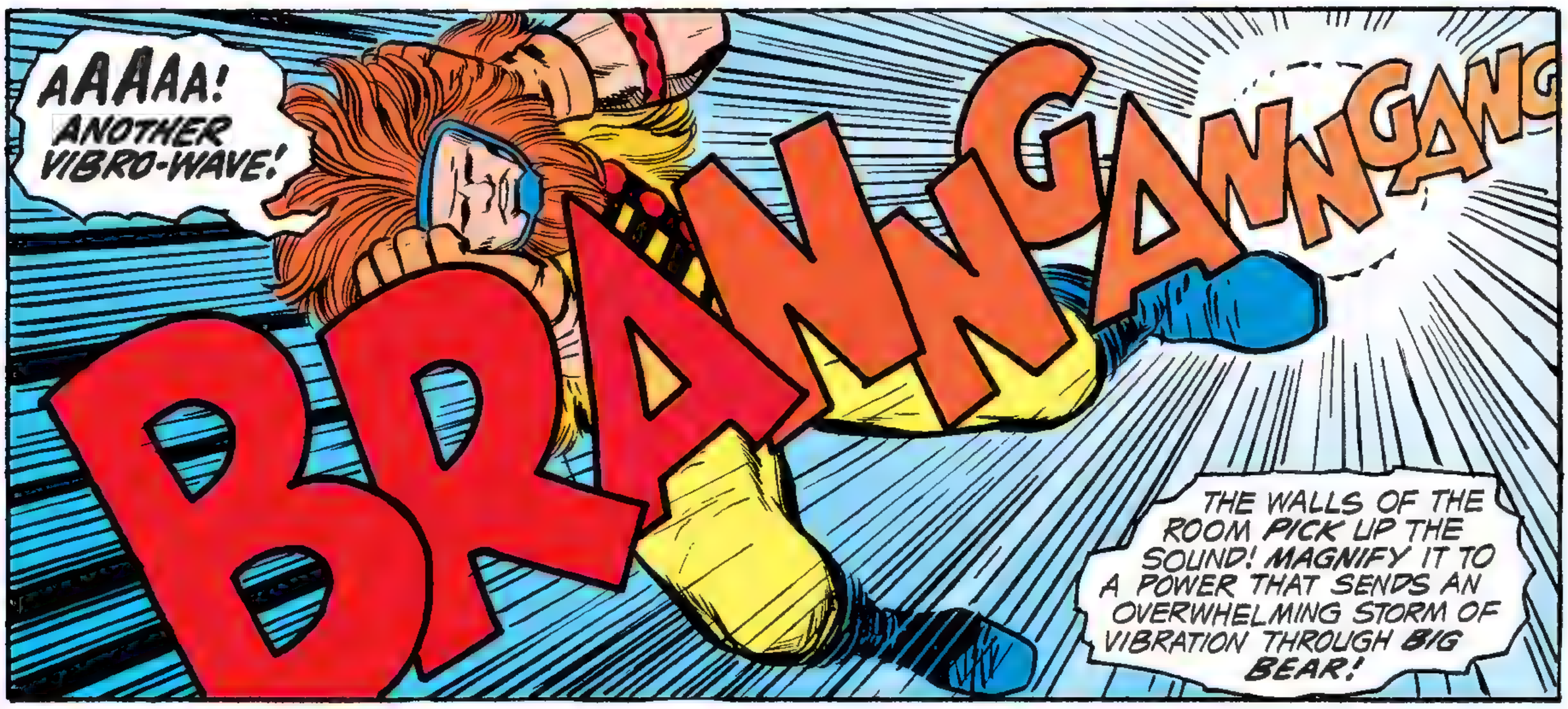
WHILE IN THE WINGS, BEHIND THIS VAST ENTERPRISE, THE MACHINES OF DESAAD HUM AND CLATTER--ENDLESSLY ENGAGED WITH HIS VICTIMS!
THERE! LOOK AT MOONRIDER'S FACE! HE'S BEGINNING TO BREAK! LOSING HOPE--HA HA HA--
THE MASTER SCRAMBLER IS FRUSTRATING HIS EVERY ATTEMPT TO BE UNDERSTOOD, SIRE!

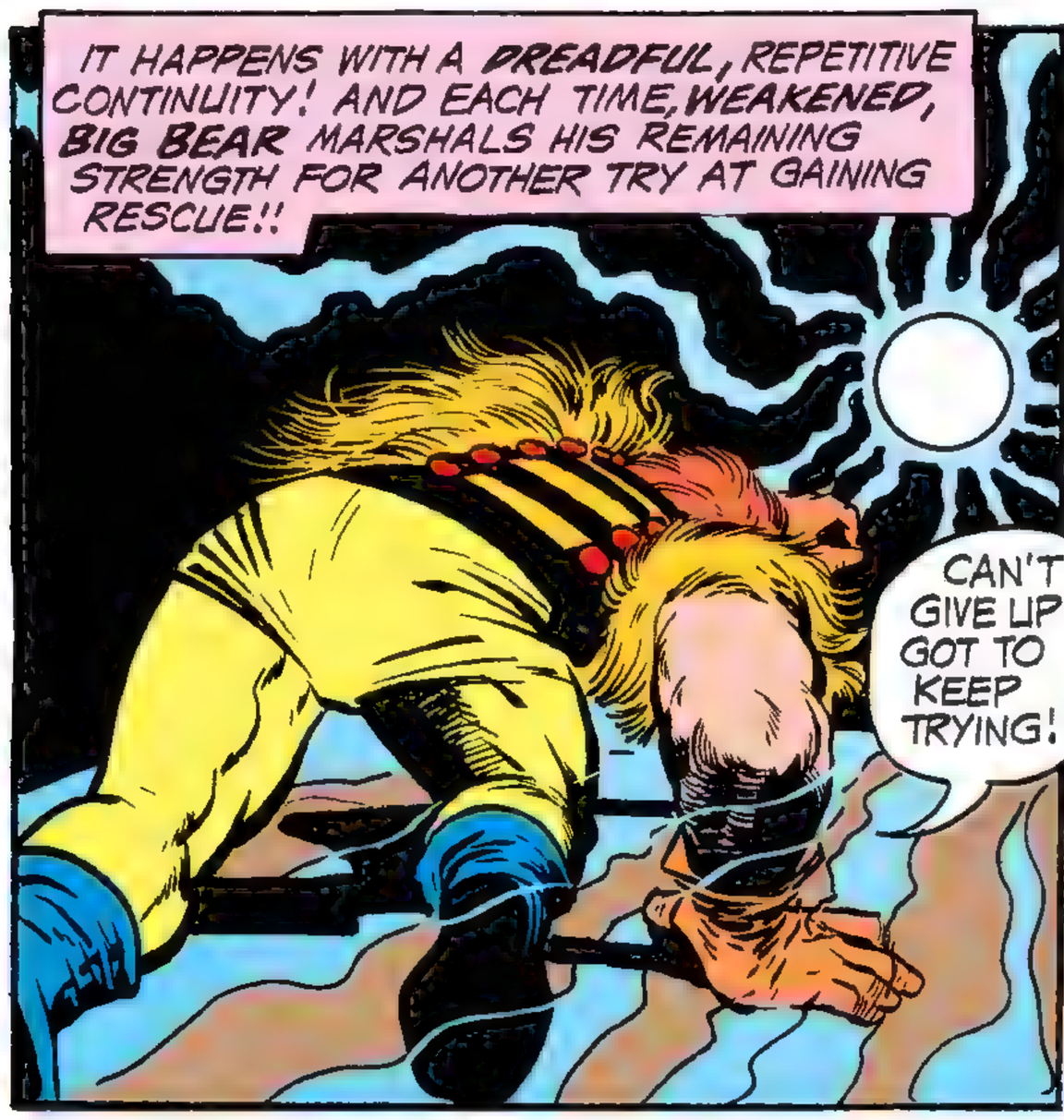
WELL, HE'S NOT READY YET TO PROVIDE ME WITH A PROPER SHOW! HE NEEDS TIME TO SIMMER--TO FEEL HIS EMOTIONS TIGHTENING INTO A HARD, SQUIRMING BALL!
IT WILL BE THE MOMENT BEFORE HE LOSES ALL REASON!

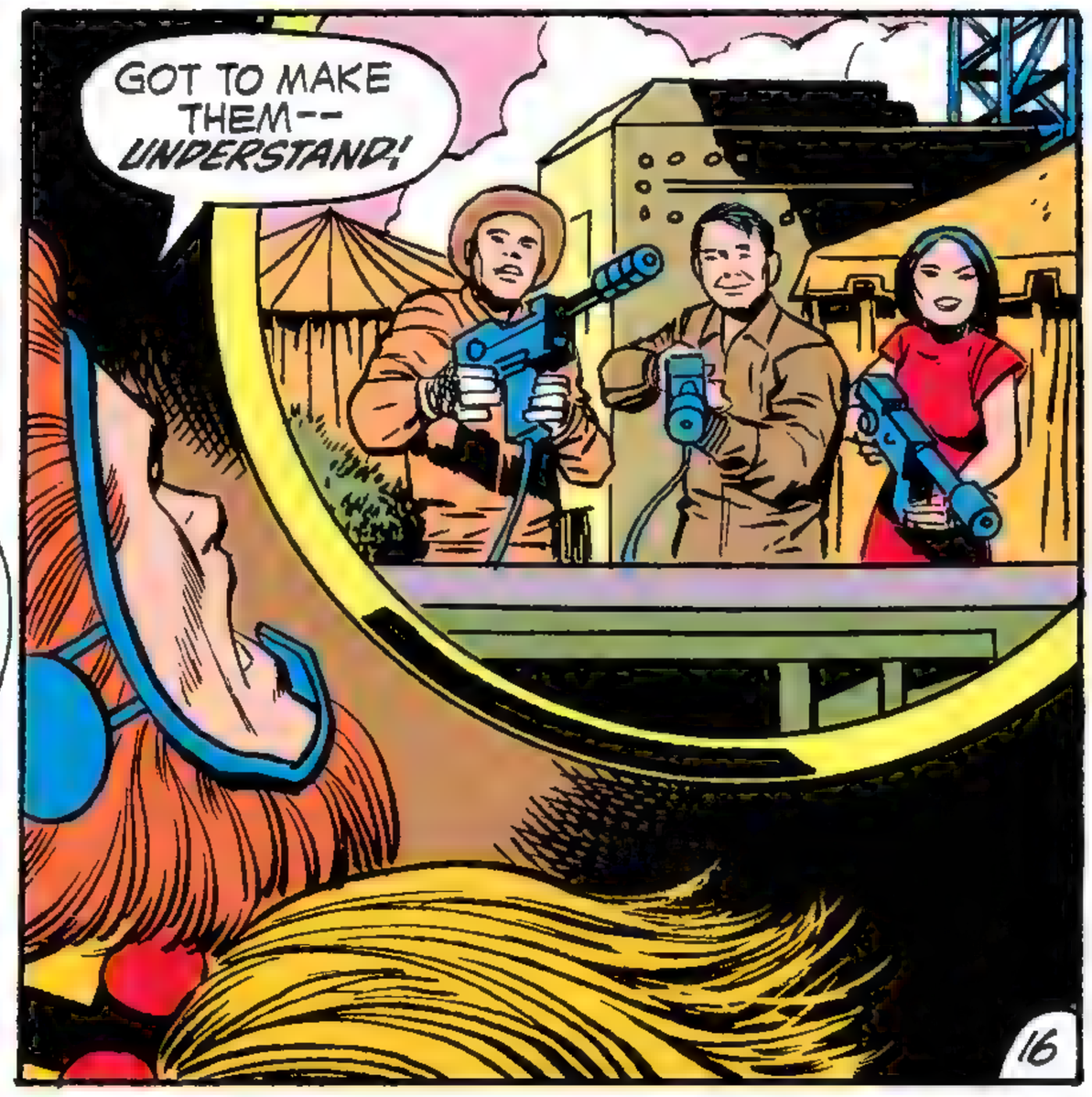

WHAT OF THE ONE THEY CALL BIG BEAR?
I HAVE HIM ON THE MONITOR, SIRE! HE IS IN THE RESONANCE ROOM!
AH! I SEE HIS FACE REFLECTS HIS PREDICAMENT!
15

BIG BEAR IS ALSO IN A CAGE! IT IS A ROOM WITH A CIRCULAR WINDOW! AND FROM IT HE STARES IN DISBELIEF!
STOP THAT, YOU FOOLS! LISTEN TO ME!
CALL THE POLICE!


BUT HIS PLEAS ARE ANSWERED BY THE SOUND OF LIGHT RIFLE POPS!!
POP
POP
POP


AAAAA! ANOTHER VIBRO-WAVE!
BRAM
GANNGANG
THE WALLS OF THE ROOM PICK UP THE SOUND! MAGNIFY IT TO A POWER THAT SENDS AN OVERWHELMING STORM OF VIBRATION THROUGH BIG BEAR!


IT HAPPENS WITH A DREADFUL, REPETITIVE CONTINUITY! AND EACH TIME, WEAKENED, BIG BEAR MARSHALS HIS REMAINING STRENGTH FOR ANOTHER TRY AT GAINING RESCUE!!
CAN'T GIVE UP! GOT TO KEEP TRYING!


GOT TO MAKE THEM-- UNDERSTAND!
16

BUT, SOMEWHERE IN HAPPYLAND, DESAAD'S SCRAMBLING MACHINE IS BUSILY AT WORK! CHANGING BIG BEAR'S IMAGE AND VOICE INTO AN INTRIGUING MOCKERY!!

WIN LOADS OF GREAT PRIZES!

SHOOT THE ROBOT BEAR!

HEY! THERE HE IS AGAIN! I'M TAKING FIRST CRACK AT HIM!

NO, YOU DON'T! LADIES FIRST!

THIS IS A TERRIFIC SHOOTING GALLERY!

THAT BEAR SURE MAKES A FUNNY GROWL!

THEN--ANOTHER VOLLEY! ANOTHER CRASHING, BODY-BRUISING SHOCK WAVE!!

BANG

IT IS ONLY DESAAD AND HIS EVIL SERVITORS WHO SEE HAPPYLAND IN ITS TRUE DIMENSIONS!

HAHAHA! THE BEAR IS A HARDY ONE-- IS HE NOT, SIRE?

UNTIL HE'S REDUCED TO A SPIRIT-LESS WRECK, HE'S NOT WORTH WATCHING!

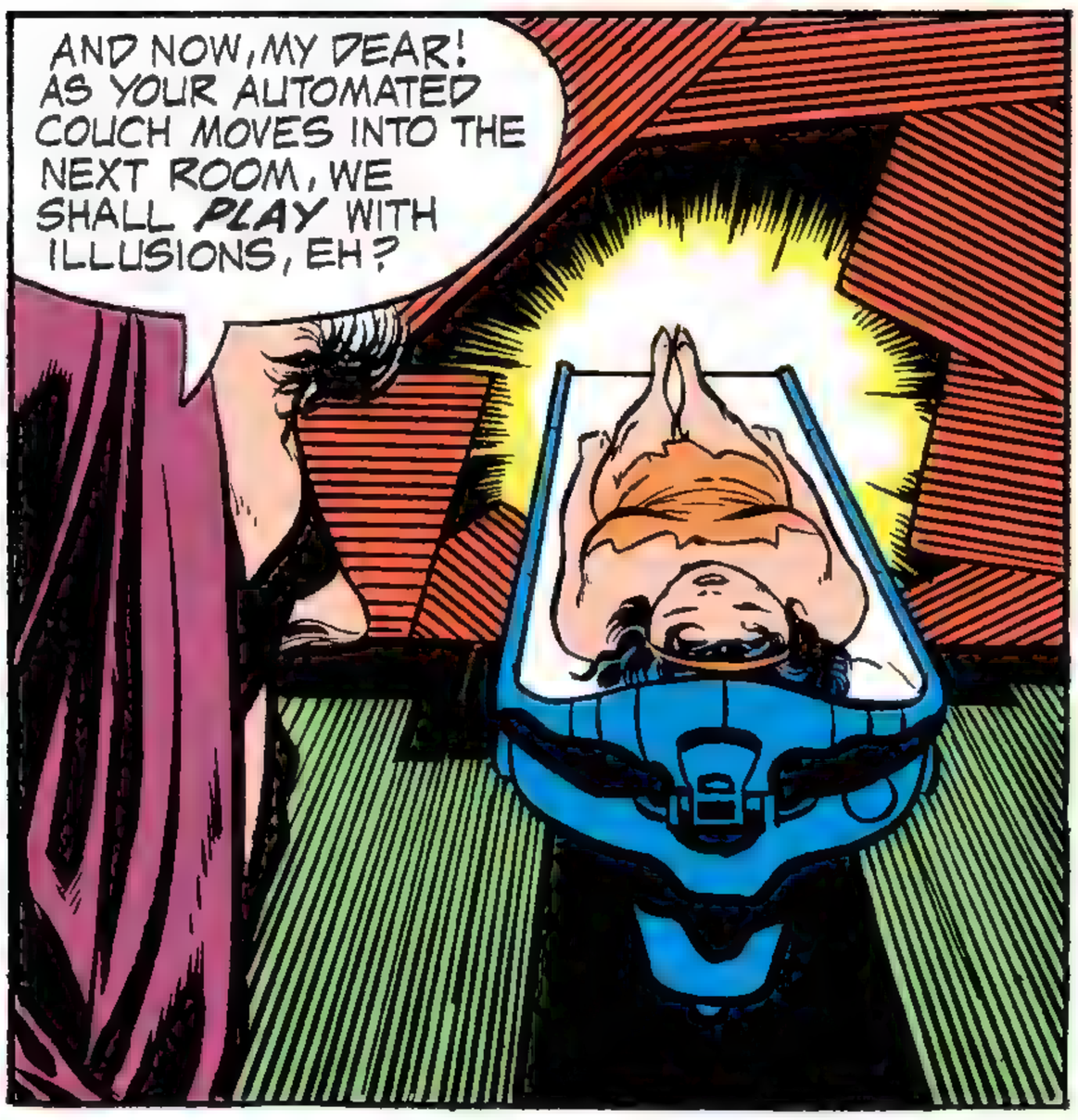
FOREVER PEOPLE ARE RATHER DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH! BUT I SHALL WEAR THEM DOWN!! NOW FOR THE GIRL!

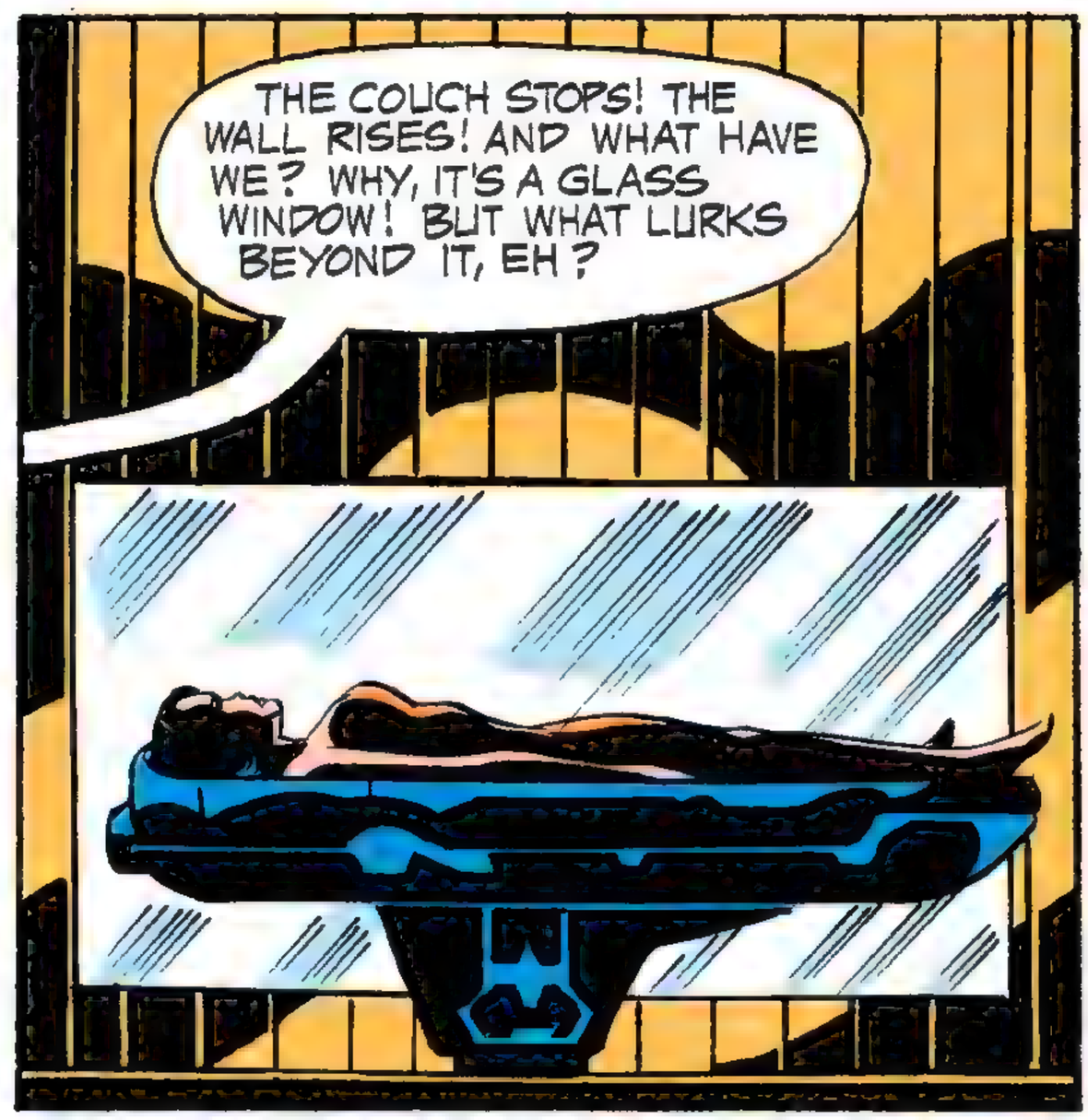
GUARD! GET AN IMMOBILIZER GUN AND COME WITH ME!!

AT ONCE, GREAT DESAAD!

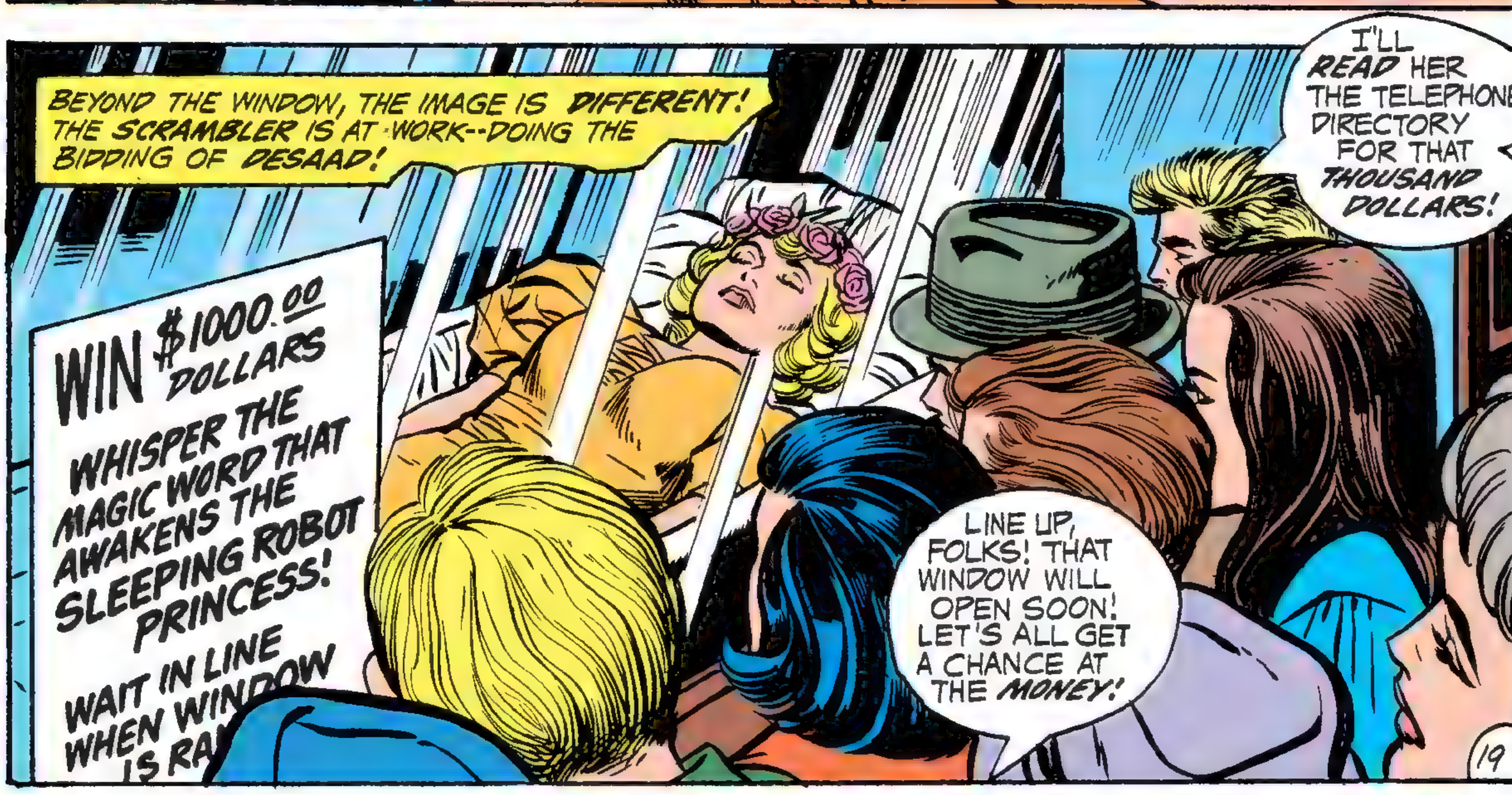
17

AHHHH--MY VISION OF BEAUTY!--AND A BEAUTY OF VISIONS, TOO, I MIGHT ADD! A MIND SO SENSITIVE THAT IT CAN MAKE ILLUSION SEEM LIKE REALITY!
WHAT MY SCRAMBLING MACHINE MUST HUFF AND PUFF TO PRODUCE--BEAUTIFUL DREAMER CAN DO BY MERE THOUGHT!
NOW, USE YOUR IMMOBILIZER, GUARD! THAT'S IT! THE BEAM WE ADMINISTERED EARLIER MAY BE WEARING OFF!
ZZZZZZZZ
I HAVE RAISED THE BEAM TO HIGH INTENSITY, SIRE! SHE WILL NOW BE UNABLE TO MOVE FOR HOURS!
18


AND NOW, MY DEAR! AS YOUR AUTOMATED COUCH MOVES INTO THE NEXT ROOM, WE SHALL PLAY WITH ILLUSIONS, EH?

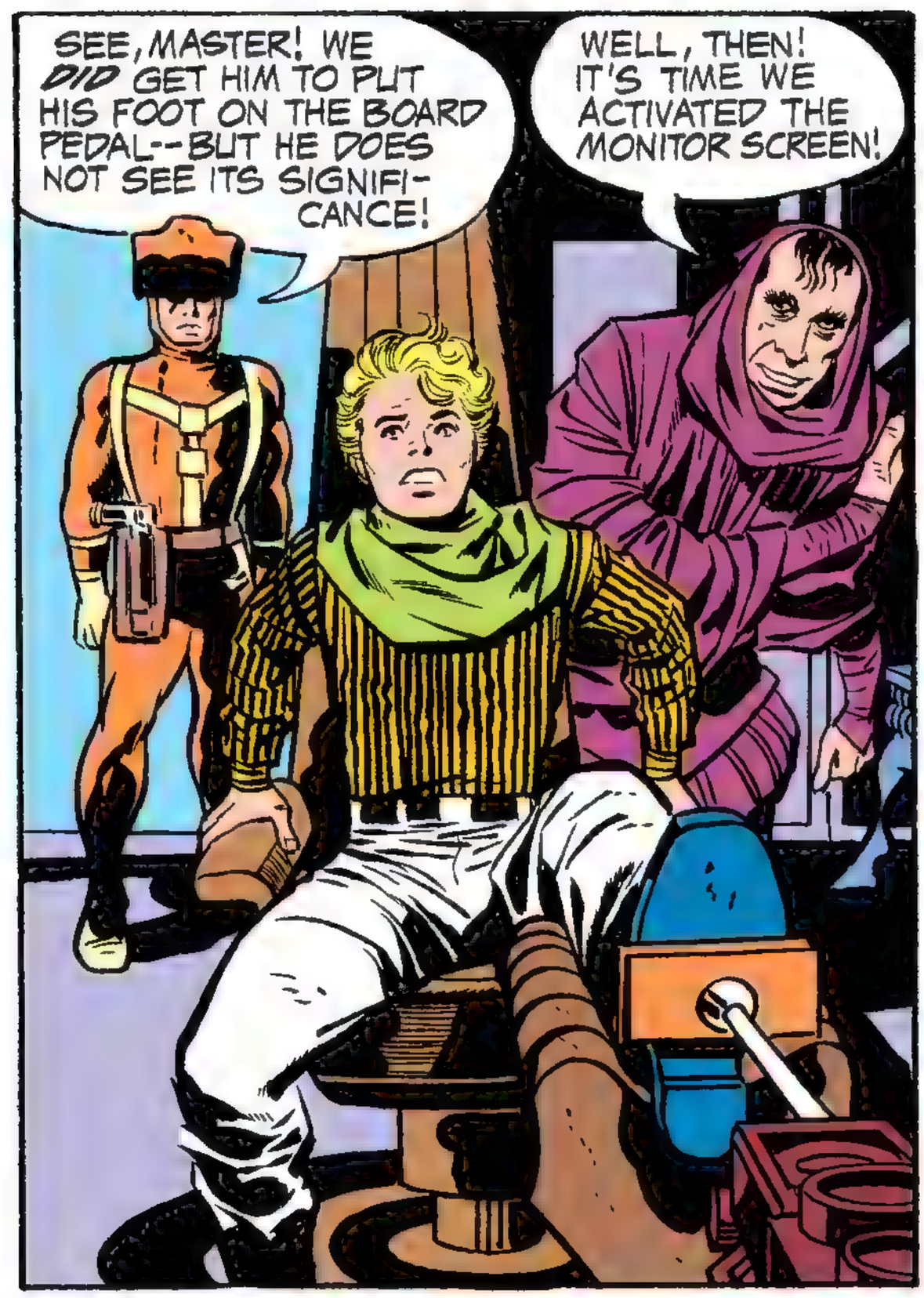

THE COUCH STOPS! THE WALL RISES! AND WHAT HAVE WE? WHY, IT'S A GLASS WINDOW! BUT WHAT LURKS BEYOND IT, EH?

MONSTERS! YES, MONSTERS! GROTESQUE! TERRIFYING! REAL! SEE THEM! HEAR THEM! HOW EAGER THEY ARE FOR THAT WINDOW TO OPEN!
RRRROWRRR
HISSSSSS


BEYOND THE WINDOW, THE IMAGE IS DIFFERENT! THE SCRAMBLER IS AT WORK--DOING THE BIDDING OF DESAAD!
I'LL READ HER THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY FOR THAT THOUSAND DOLLARS!
WIN $1000.00 DOLLARS
WHISPER THE MAGIC WORD THAT AWAKENS THE SLEEPING ROBOT PRINCESS!
WAIT IN LINE WHEN WINDOW IS RA
LINE UP, FOLKS! THAT WINDOW WILL OPEN SOON! LET'S ALL GET A CHANCE AT THE MONEY!
19

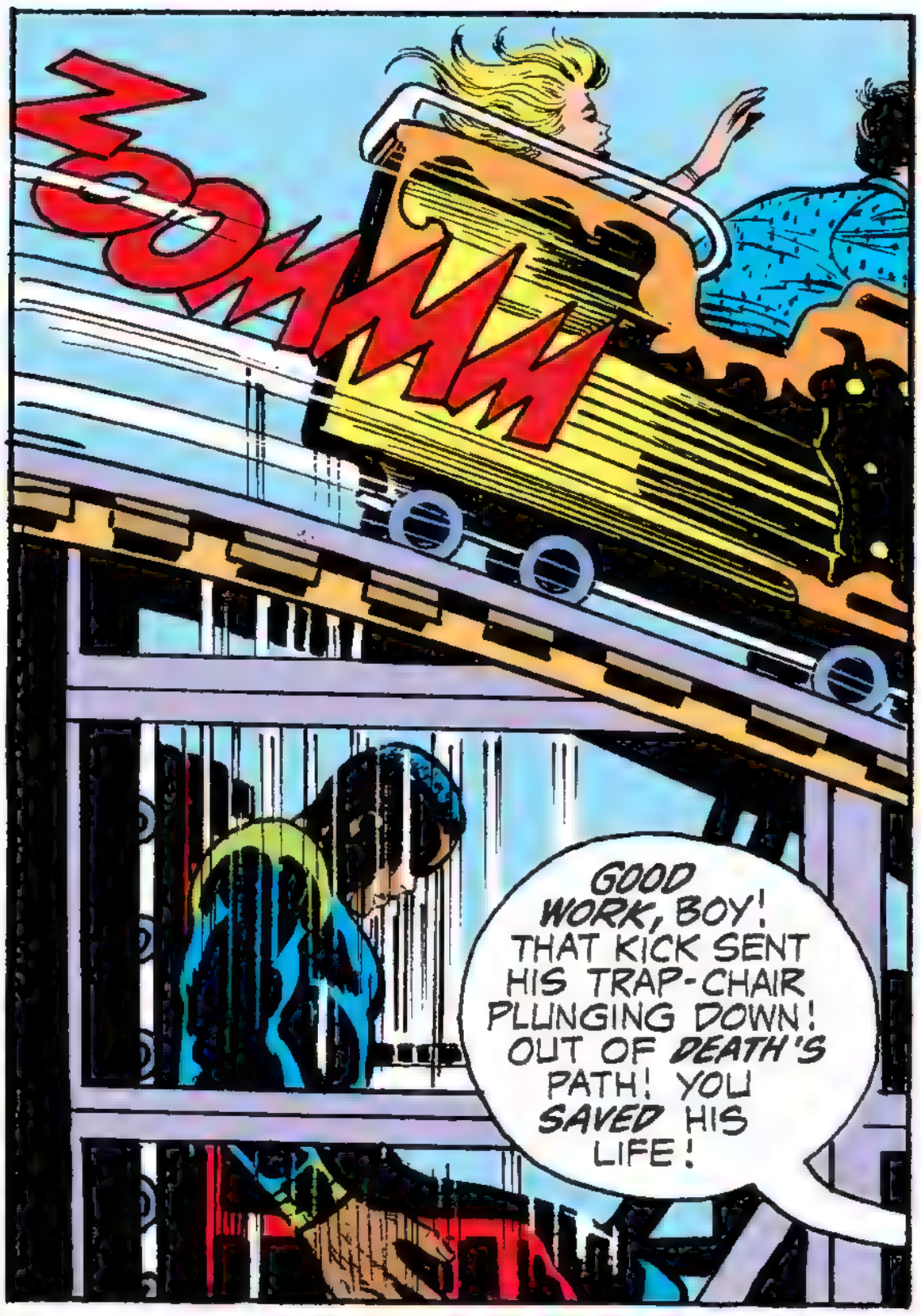
YES, NOW THE WINDOW WILL OPEN-- AND THE MONSTERS WILL SWARM IN--TO WHISPER SWEET NOTHINGS IN HER EAR!
HO, MASTER! THE YOUNGEST OF THE CAPTIVES WILL NOT COOPERATE!

HE'S THE ONE THEY CALL SERIFAN! WE PUT HIM IN THE CHAIR PREPARED FOR HIM!--BUT HE STRUGGLES AGAINST US-- AND WE HAVE YOUR ORDERS NOT TO DISCIPLINE HIM!
WHAT? TOUCH THAT ANGELIC BOY? WE MUSTN'T DO THAT!
COME! HE WILL OBEY DESAAD!

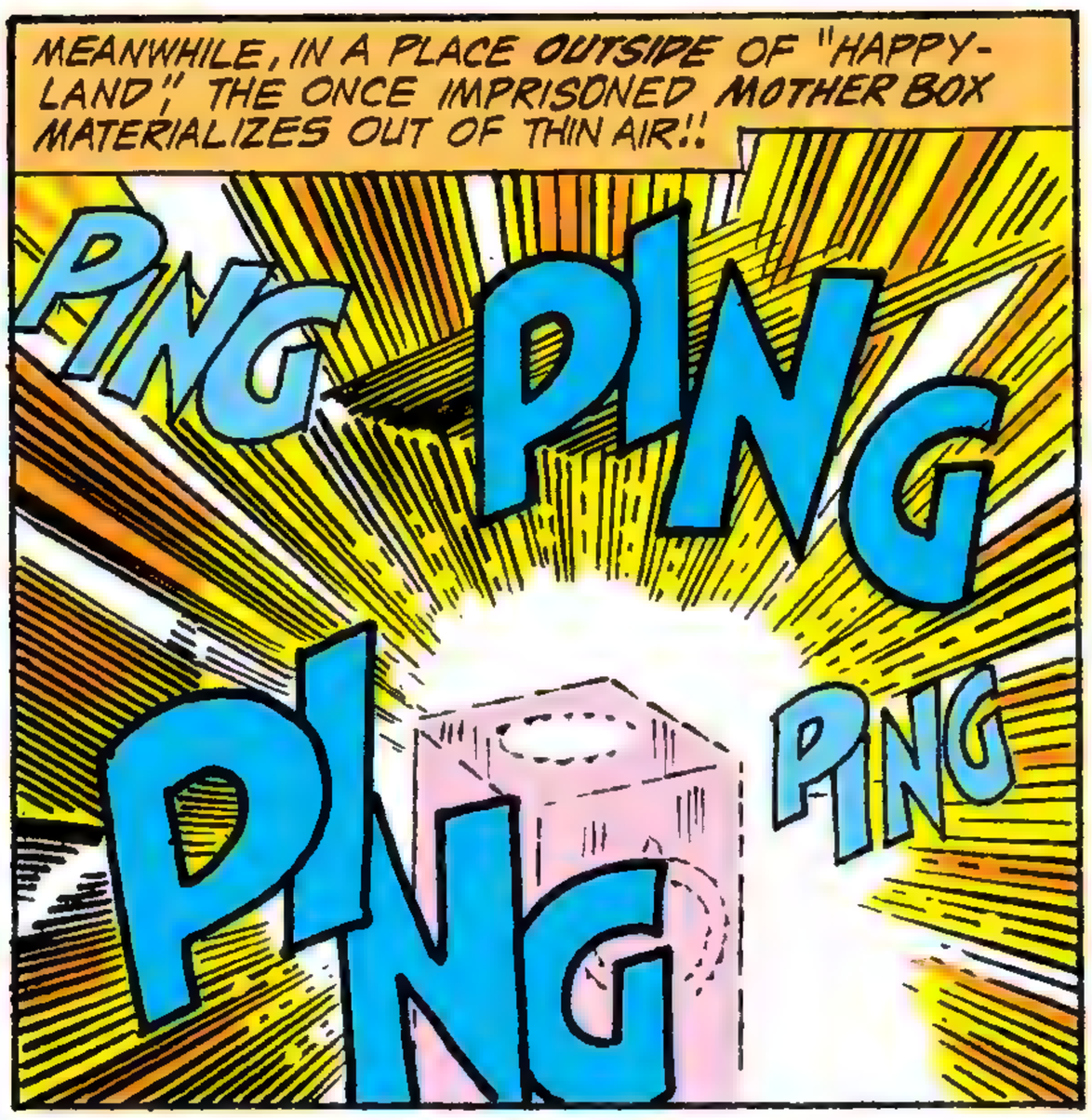

SEE, MASTER! WE DID GET HIM TO PUT HIS FOOT ON THE BOARD PEDAL--BUT HE DOES NOT SEE ITS SIGNIFI- CANCE!
WELL, THEN! IT'S TIME WE ACTIVATED THE MONITOR SCREEN!

IT WILL BE LIKE WATCHING A WESTERN MOVIE, BOY! YOU LOVE EARTH WESTERN MOVIES, DON'T YOU? WELL, IN THIS ONE, YOU SHALL PLAY THE NOBLE HERO!
W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN--?
20

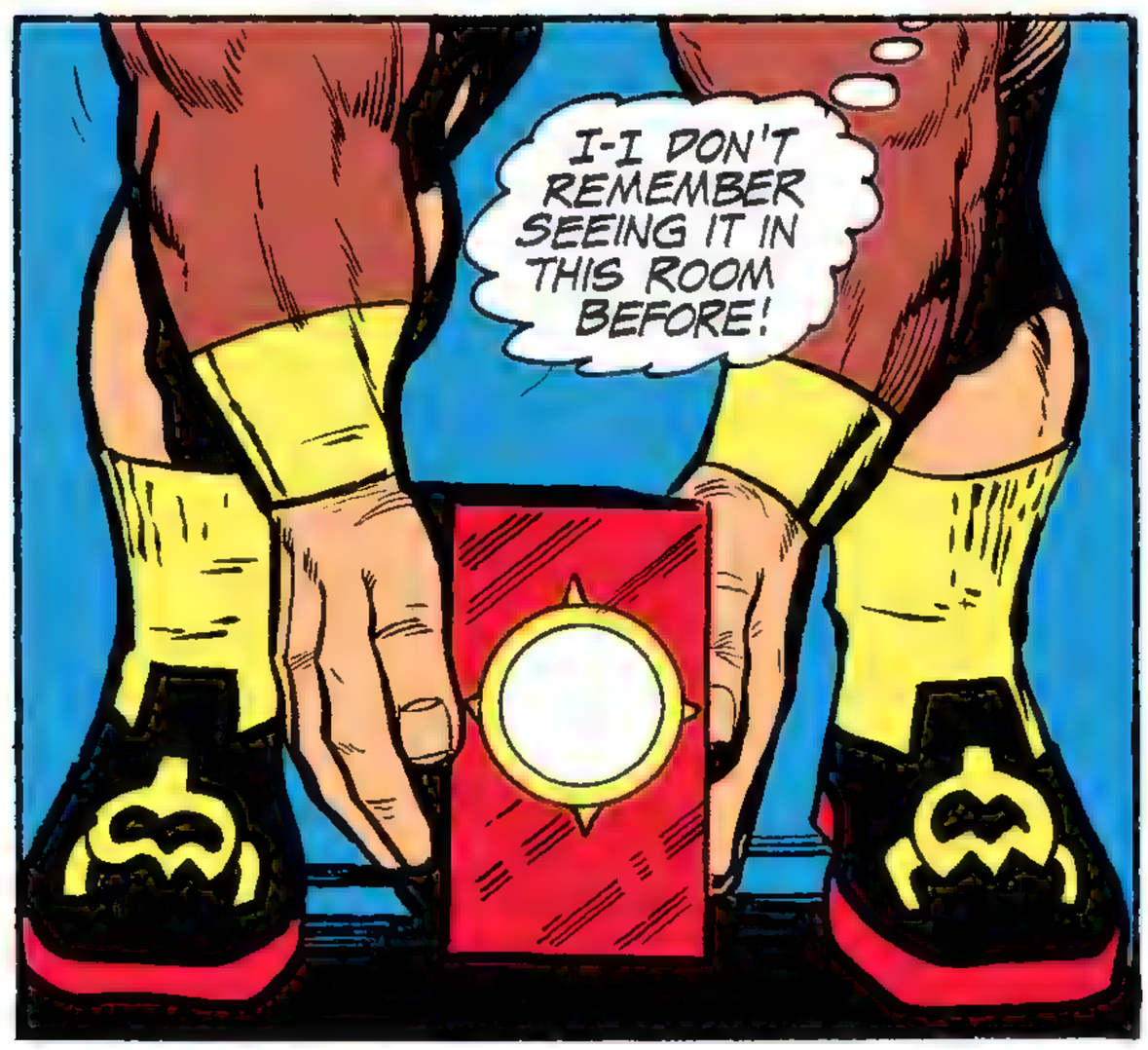
THERE! ON THE SCREEN! YOUR GOOD FRIEND, VYKIN, THE BLACK SITS TRAPPED IN THE PATH OF THAT ONRUSHING ROLLER COASTER! IT'S REALLY HAPPENING!
ROLLER COASTER
QUICK! NOW KICK THE FOOT PEDAL--OR HE DIES!
VYKIN!
KLAK

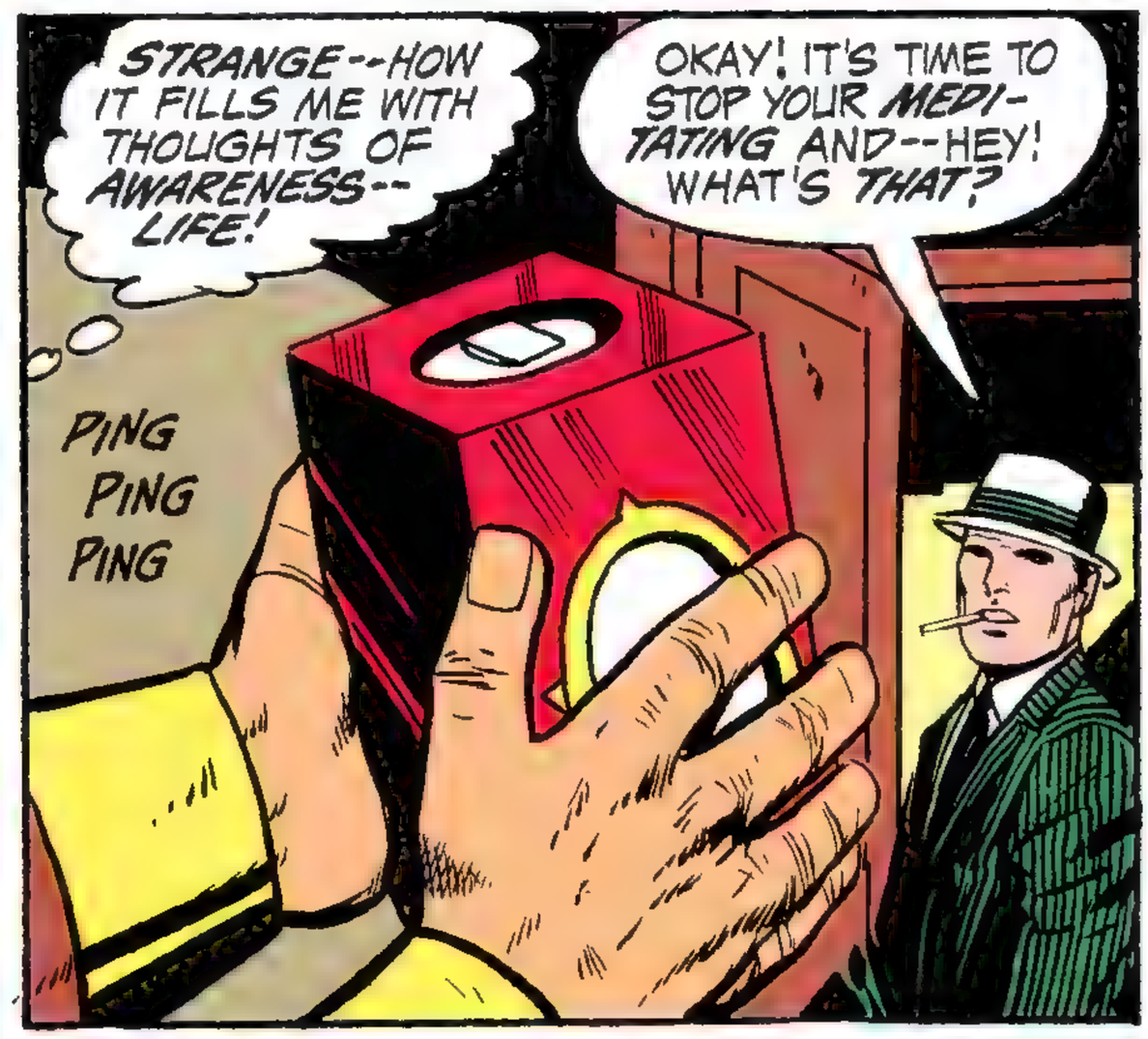

ZOOMMM
GOOD WORK, BOY! THAT KICK SENT HIS TRAP-CHAIR PLUNGING DOWN! OUT OF DEATH'S PATH! YOU SAVED HIS LIFE!

BUT, LOOK! HIS CHAIR IS RISING ONCE MORE! IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN!
AND AGAIN-- AND AGAIN--AND AGAIN! BUT NEVER FEAR! YOU'LL BE HERE, IN THIS CHAIR, BOY--KICKING THE PEDAL TO SAVE HIS LIFE!
JUST DON'T GET TIRED! IT COULD BE FATAL TO YOUR FRIEND!
21

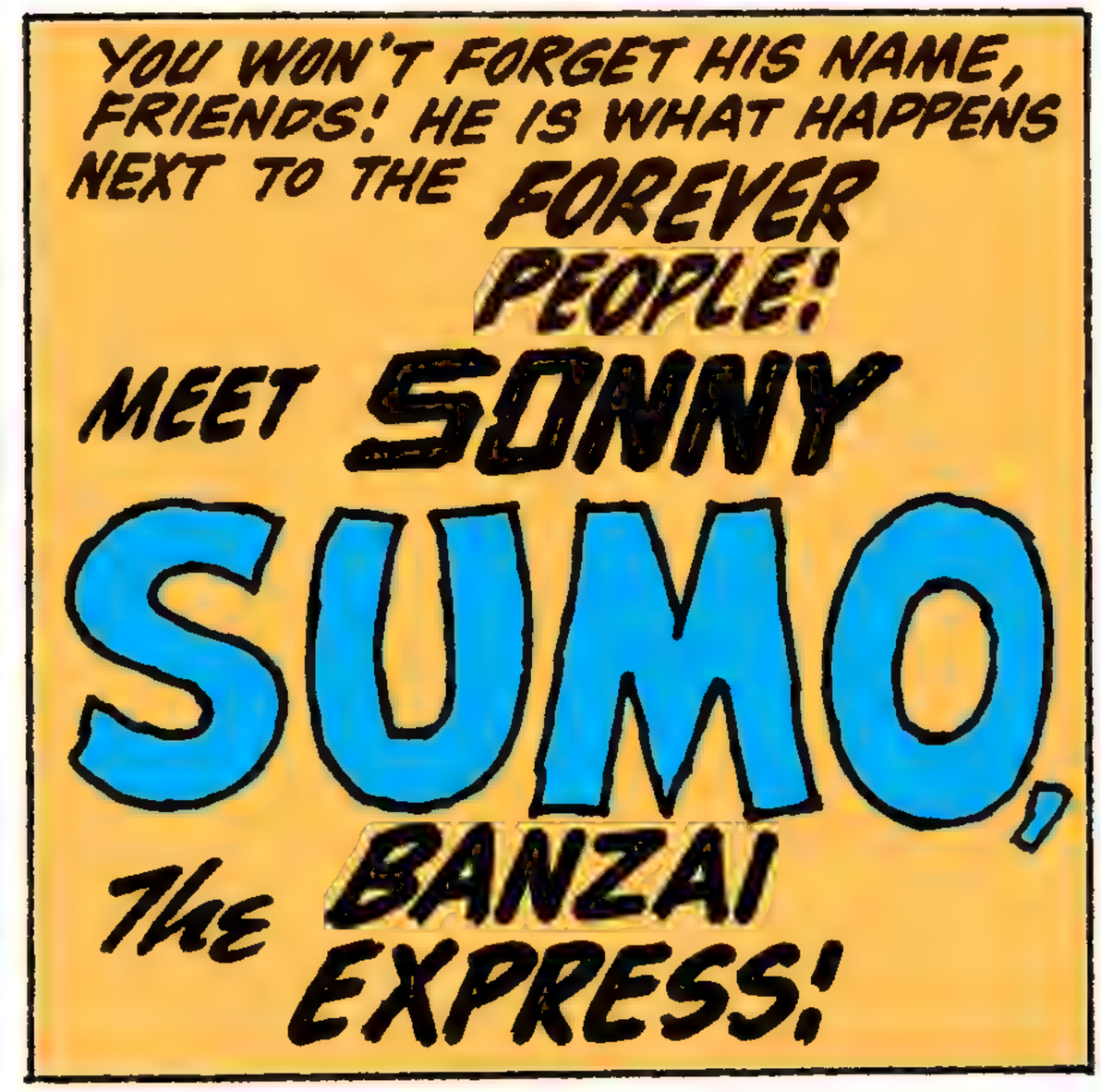

MEANWHILE, IN A PLACE OUTSIDE OF "HAPPY-LAND", THE ONCE IMPRISONED MOTHER BOX MATERIALIZES OUT OF THIN AIR!!
PING
PING
PING
PING

AND THERE, IN THAT PLACE, IT RESTS! WAITING--WAITING FOR THE APPROACH OF GREAT, FRIENDLY HANDS! AND THEY COME!
WHAT IS THIS I HAVE FALLEN HEIR TO?
PING
PING
PING


I-I DON'T REMEMBER SEEING IT IN THIS ROOM BEFORE!


STRANGE--HOW IT FILLS ME WITH THOUGHTS OF AWARENESS--LIFE!
OKAY! IT'S TIME TO STOP YOUR MEDITATING AND--HEY! WHAT'S THAT?
PING
PING
PING

I DON'T KNOW! BUT INSIDE IT, THE ANCIENT WINDS OF TROUBLE BLOW--CALLING OUT MY NAME--FOR HELP!
22


YOU WON'T FORGET HIS NAME, FRIENDS! HE IS WHAT HAPPENS NEXT TO THE FOREVER PEOPLE!
MEET SONNY SUMO, THE BANZAI EXPRESS!

TO OPPOSE THE POWER OF EVIL GODS- MOTHER BOX FINDS THE MOST INCREDIBLE MAN ON EARTH!! SONNY SUMO!!

bigger & better

THE FOREVER PEOPLE

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

NO. 5
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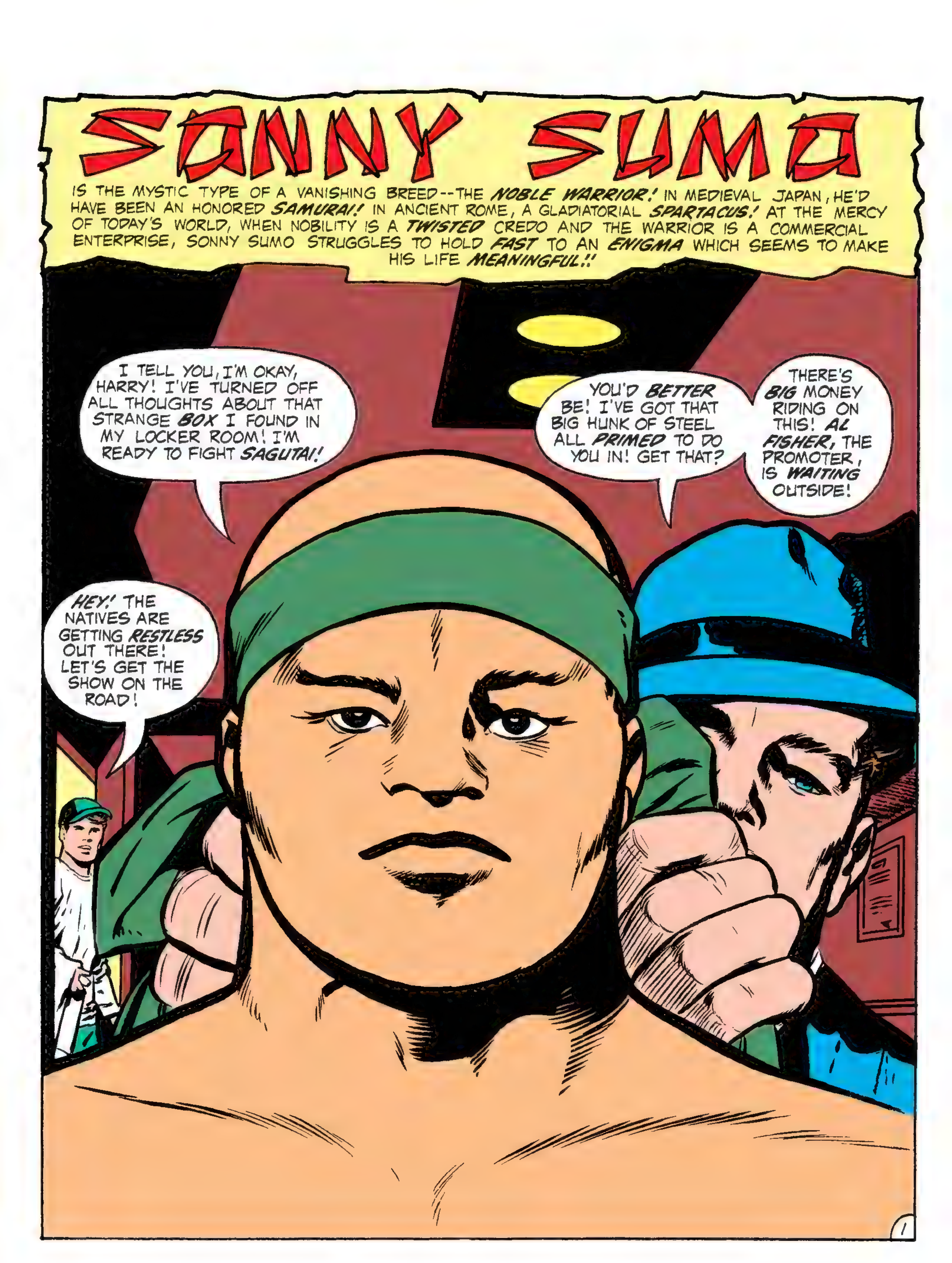
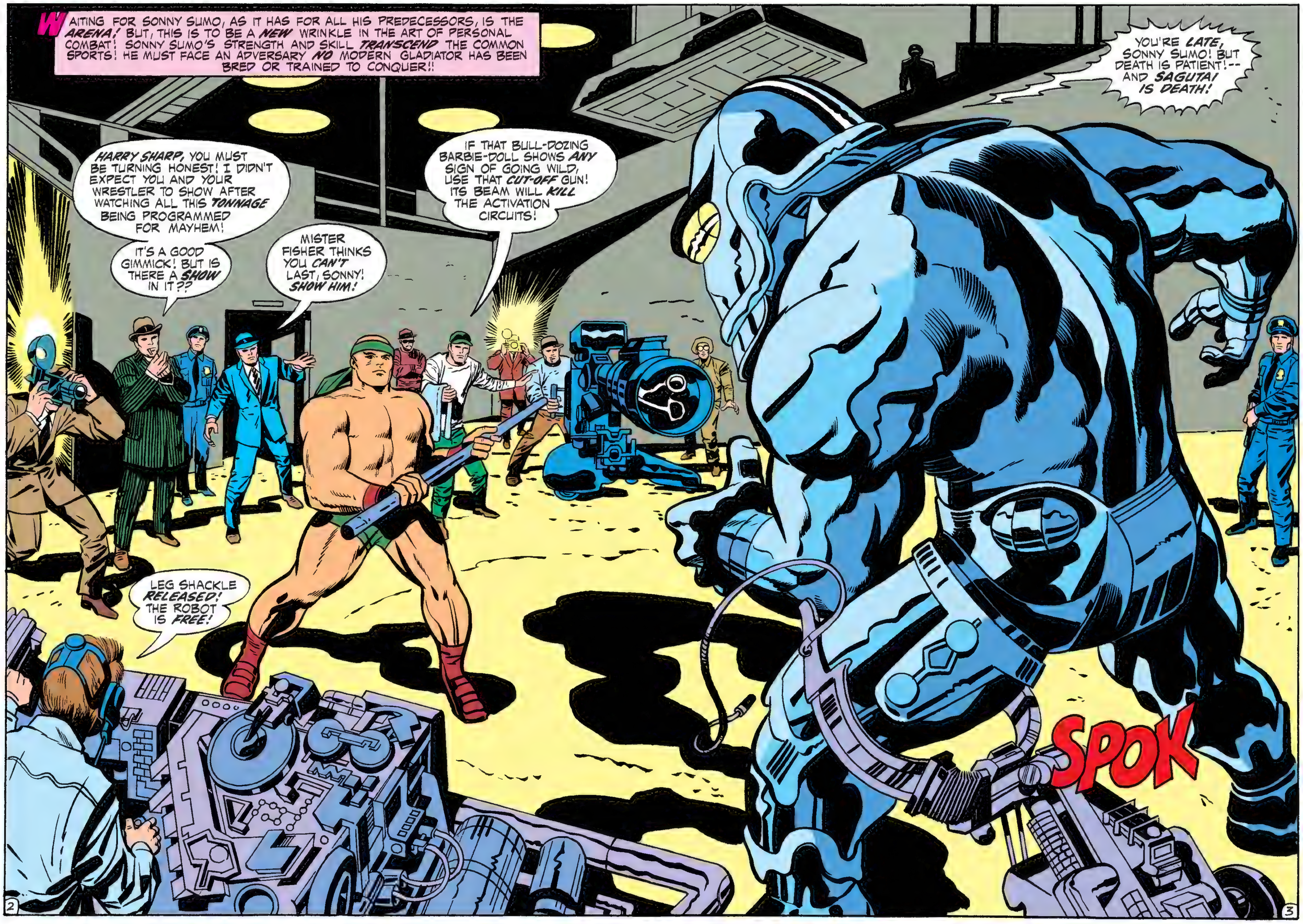
30 490

FOR THE FIRST TIME!!! SEE THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION IN ACTION!

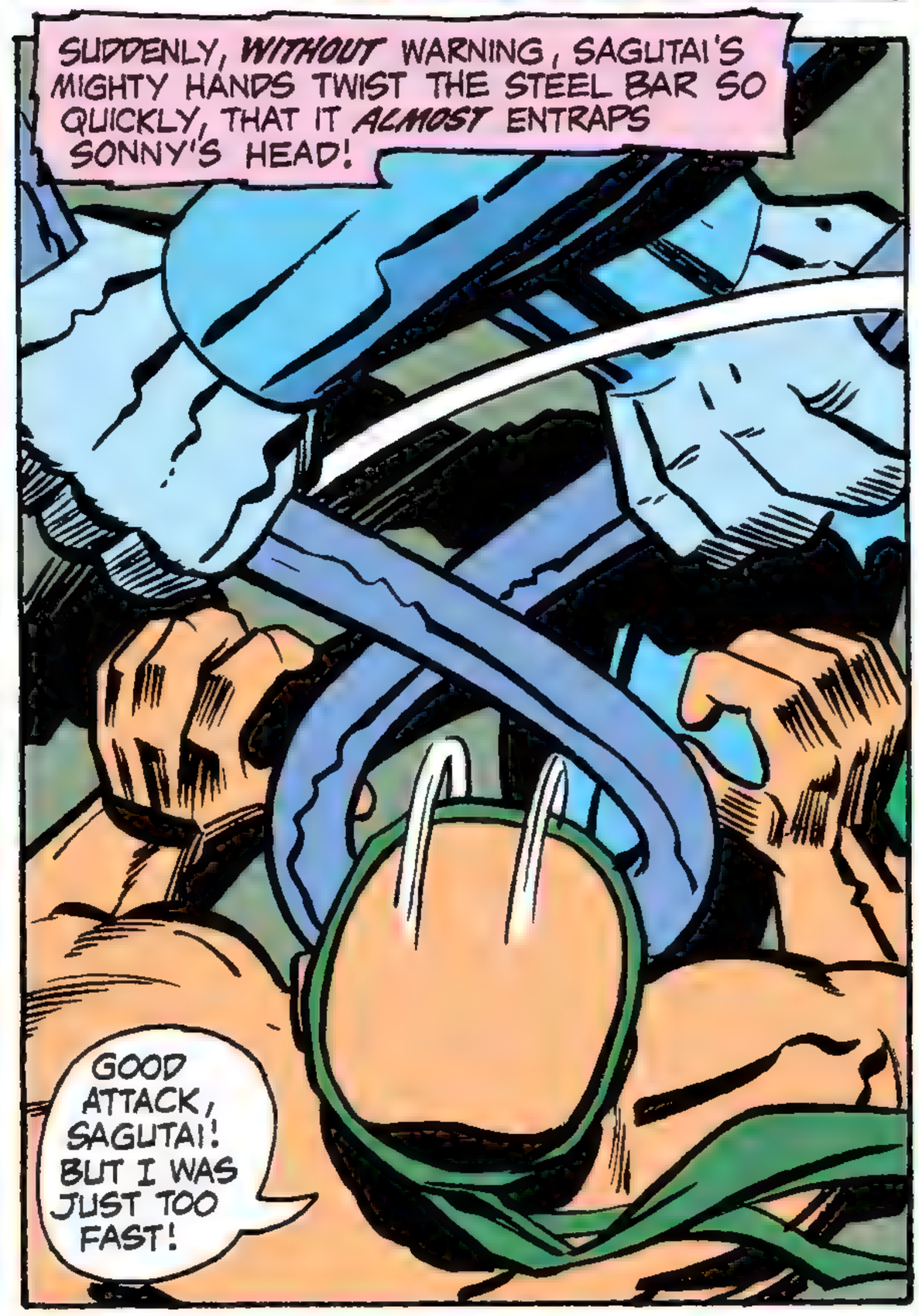
EXTRA! THE SANDMAN MEETS THE EVIL CARNIVAL GANG!

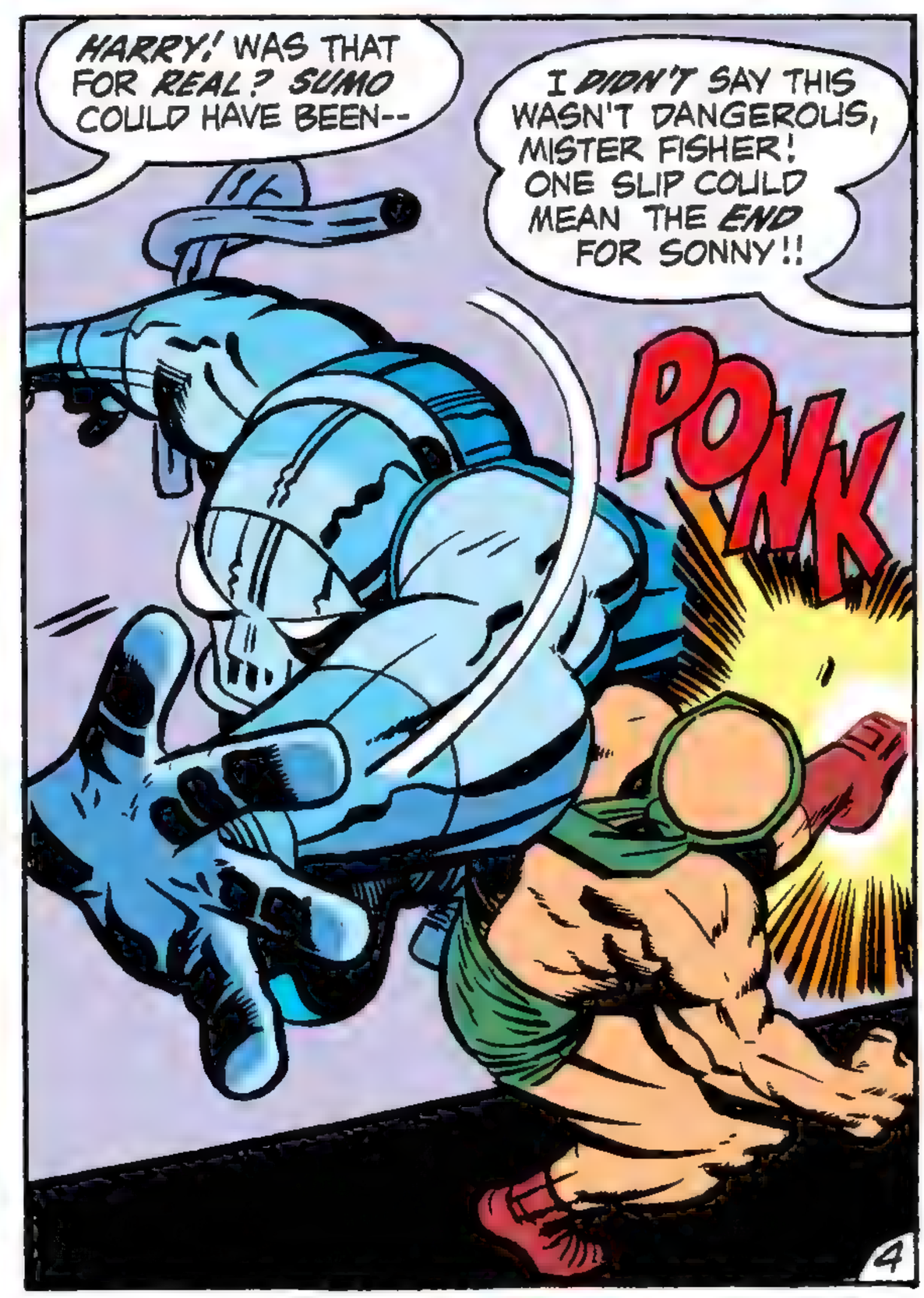

SONNY SUMO
IS THE MYSTIC TYPE OF A VANISHING BREED--THE NOBLE WARRIOR! IN MEDIEVAL JAPAN, HE'D HAVE BEEN AN HONORED SAMURAI! IN ANCIENT ROME, A GLADIATORIAL SPARTACUS! AT THE MERCY OF TODAY'S WORLD, WHEN NOBILITY IS A TWISTED CREDO AND THE WARRIOR IS A COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE, SONNY SUMO STRUGGLES TO HOLD FAST TO AN ENIGMA WHICH SEEMS TO MAKE HIS LIFE MEANINGFUL!!
I TELL YOU, I'M OKAY, HARRY! I'VE TURNED OFF ALL THOUGHTS ABOUT THAT STRANGE BOX I FOUND IN MY LOCKER ROOM! I'M READY TO FIGHT SAGUTAI!
YOU'D BETTER BE! I'VE GOT THAT BIG HUNK OF STEEL ALL PRIMED TO DO YOU IN! GET THAT?
THERE'S BIG MONEY RIDING ON THIS! AL FISHER, THE PROMOTER, IS WAITING OUTSIDE!
HEY! THE NATIVES ARE GETTING RESTLESS OUT THERE! LET'S GET THE SHOW ON THE ROAD!


WAITING FOR SONNY SUMO, AS IT HAS FOR ALL HIS PREDECESSORS, IS THE ARENA! BUT, THIS IS TO BE A NEW WRINKLE IN THE ART OF PERSONAL COMBAT! SONNY SUMO'S STRENGTH AND SKILL TRANSCEND THE COMMON SPORTS! HE MUST FACE AN ADVERSARY NO MODERN GLADIATOR HAS BEEN BRED OR TRAINED TO CONQUER!!
HARRY SHARP, YOU MUST BE TURNING HONEST! I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU AND YOUR WRESTLER TO SHOW AFTER WATCHING ALL THIS TONNAGE BEING PROGRAMMED FOR MAYHEM!
IT'S A GOOD GIMMICK! BUT IS THERE A SHOW IN IT??
MISTER FISHER THINKS YOU CAN'T LAST, SONNY! SHOW HIM!
IF THAT BULL-DOZING BARBIE-DOLL SHOWS ANY SIGN OF GOING WILD, USE THAT CUT-OFF GUN! ITS BEAM WILL KILL THE ACTIVATION CIRCUITS!
LEG SHACKLE RELEASED! THE ROBOT IS FREE!
YOU'RE LATE, SONNY SUMO! BUT DEATH IS PATIENT!-- AND SAGUTAI IS DEATH!
SPOK
2
3

THAT ROBOT TALKS, HARRY! YOU MUST'VE PUT A BUNDLE INTO BUILDING HIM!
I DIDN'T BUILD HIM, MISTER FISHER--BUT SONNY AND SAGUTAI ARE A LARGE INVESTMENT! IF YOU LIKE THEM--THE ACT WILL PAY OFF--BUT BIG!

HOW DOES HE DO IT, HARRY!!? IT ISN'T POSSIBLE FOR ANY HUMAN TO HOLD BACK THAT THING!
SONNY CAN! RIGHT NOW, HE'S USING THAT STEEL POLE TO KEEP SAGUTAI OFF BALANCE!
UGH-H--


SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, SAGUTAI'S MIGHTY HANDS TWIST THE STEEL BAR SO QUICKLY, THAT IT ALMOST ENTRAPS SONNY'S HEAD!
GOOD ATTACK, SAGUTAI! BUT I WAS JUST TOO FAST!

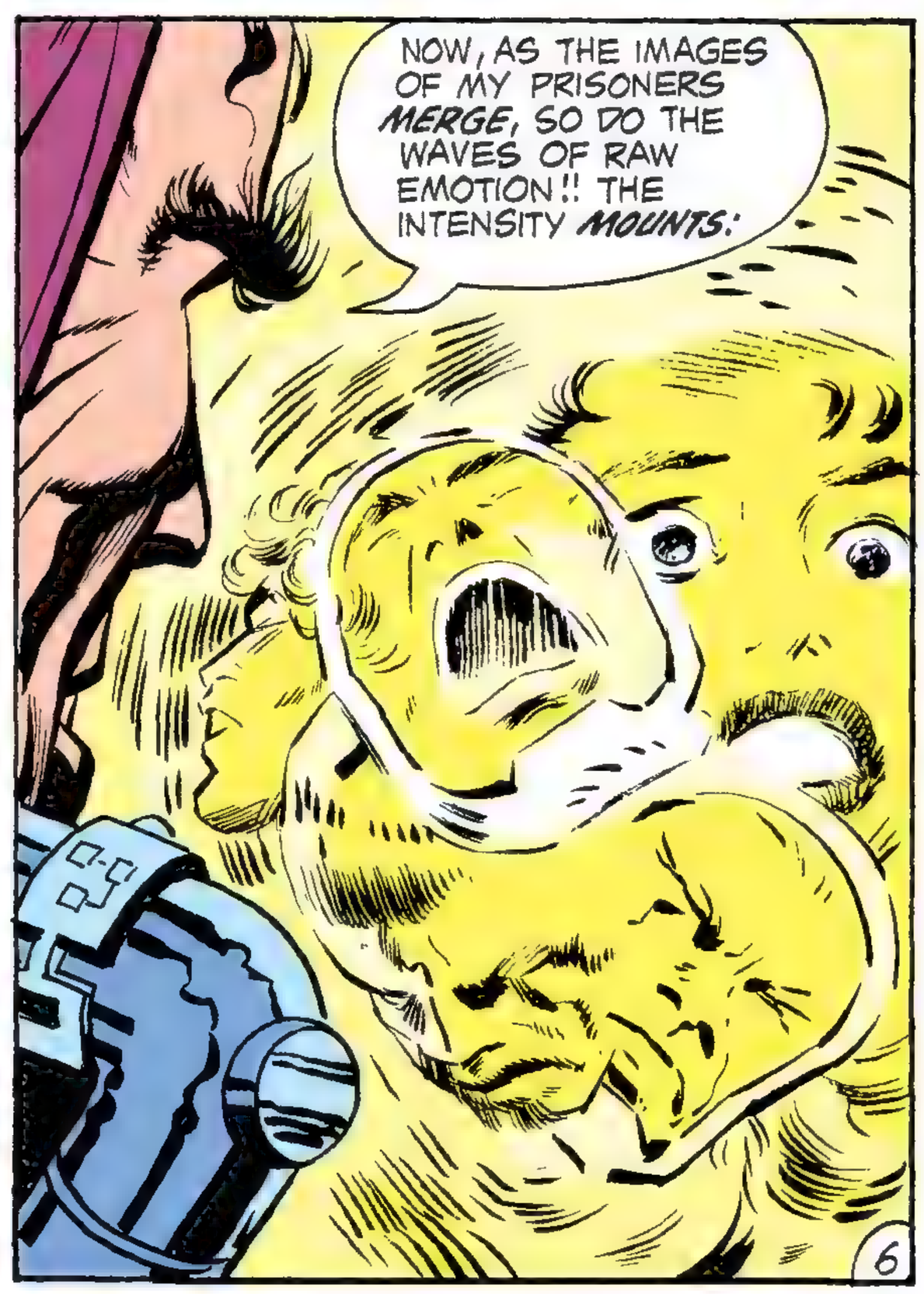

HARRY! WAS THAT FOR REAL? SUMO COULD HAVE BEEN--
I DIDN'T SAY THIS WASN'T DANGEROUS, MISTER FISHER! ONE SLIP COULD MEAN THE END FOR SONNY!!
PONK
4

BUT DANGER AND DEATH ARE ONLY PART OF THE DEVELOPING STORY OF SONNY SUMO! HIS POWERS HAVE SCARCELY BEEN TESTED!!--FOR WHEN THEIR FULL RANGE IS FINALLY REALIZED, THEY WILL ROCK THE "KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED!" AND SHAKE THE ARROGANCE OF EVIL GODS!! AND BRING HOPE TO MOONRIDER, BIG BEAR, VYKIN THE BLACK, SERIFAN AND BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!!--
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
OUR HONORED GUESTS, GREAT DESAAD! EACH REGISTERED ON THE PSYCHO-FUGE!
AND EACH REGISTERING HIS INDIVIDUAL REACTION TO THE LITTLE ARRANGEMENTS I'VE MADE FOR THEM, HERE AT HAPPYLAND!
WRITTEN, DRAWN AND EDITED BY--WHO ELSE?
JACK KIRBY
AND INKED BY--WHO ELSE--?
VINCE COLLETTA
5

THE KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED IS A SUBTLE CONCEPT! HAPPYLAND, THE AMUSEMENT PARK, ON THE OUTSIDE--AND BEHIND THE FACADE--
YOUR RELUCTANT GUESTS, SIRE!! YOUR PRIVATE AMUSEMENTS!

AS YOU ORDERED--I REVOLVE THE PSYCHO-FUGE!
FINE! MY SENSITIVE "FEAR SIPHON" IS HONED AND READY TO "RECEIVE!"

YES! THEY'RE FILTERING THROUGH! THE HEIGHTENED EMOTIONS FORCED OUT BY JOLTING STRESS!
TO RIDE THOSE WAVES IS AN EXHILARATING EXPERIENCE!


NOW, AS THE IMAGES OF MY PRISONERS MERGE, SO DO THE WAVES OF RAW EMOTION!! THE INTENSITY MOUNTS:
6

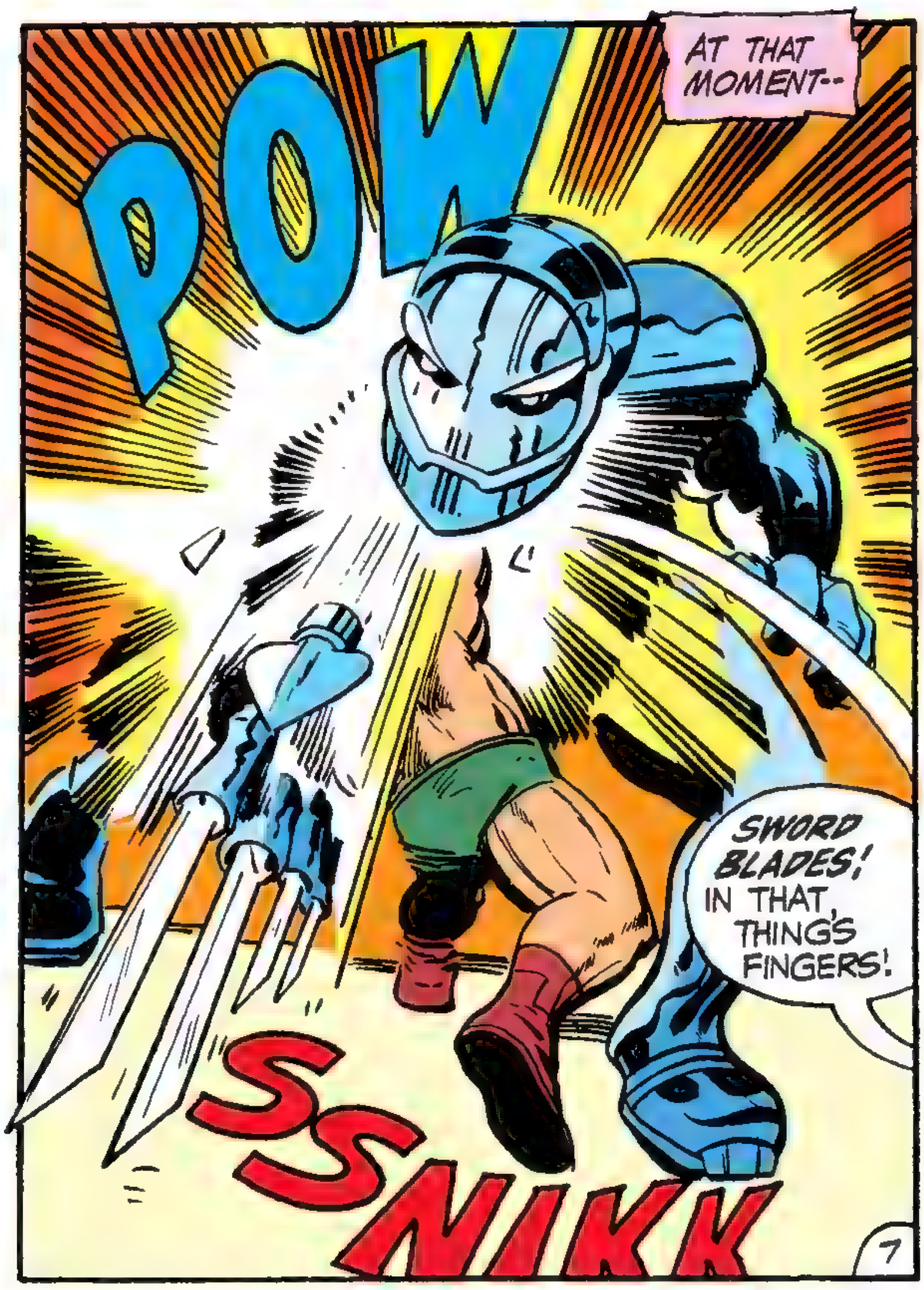
SUDDENLY, IN THE WHIRLING PIN-WHEEL OF *FRENZIED* FEAR-WAVES, THE IMAGES OF DESAAD'S *OTHER* CAPTIVES BLEND IN TO FORM A HORRIBLE, GROTESQUE MASS OF UNRECOGNIZABLE *STRESS VISUALS!!*

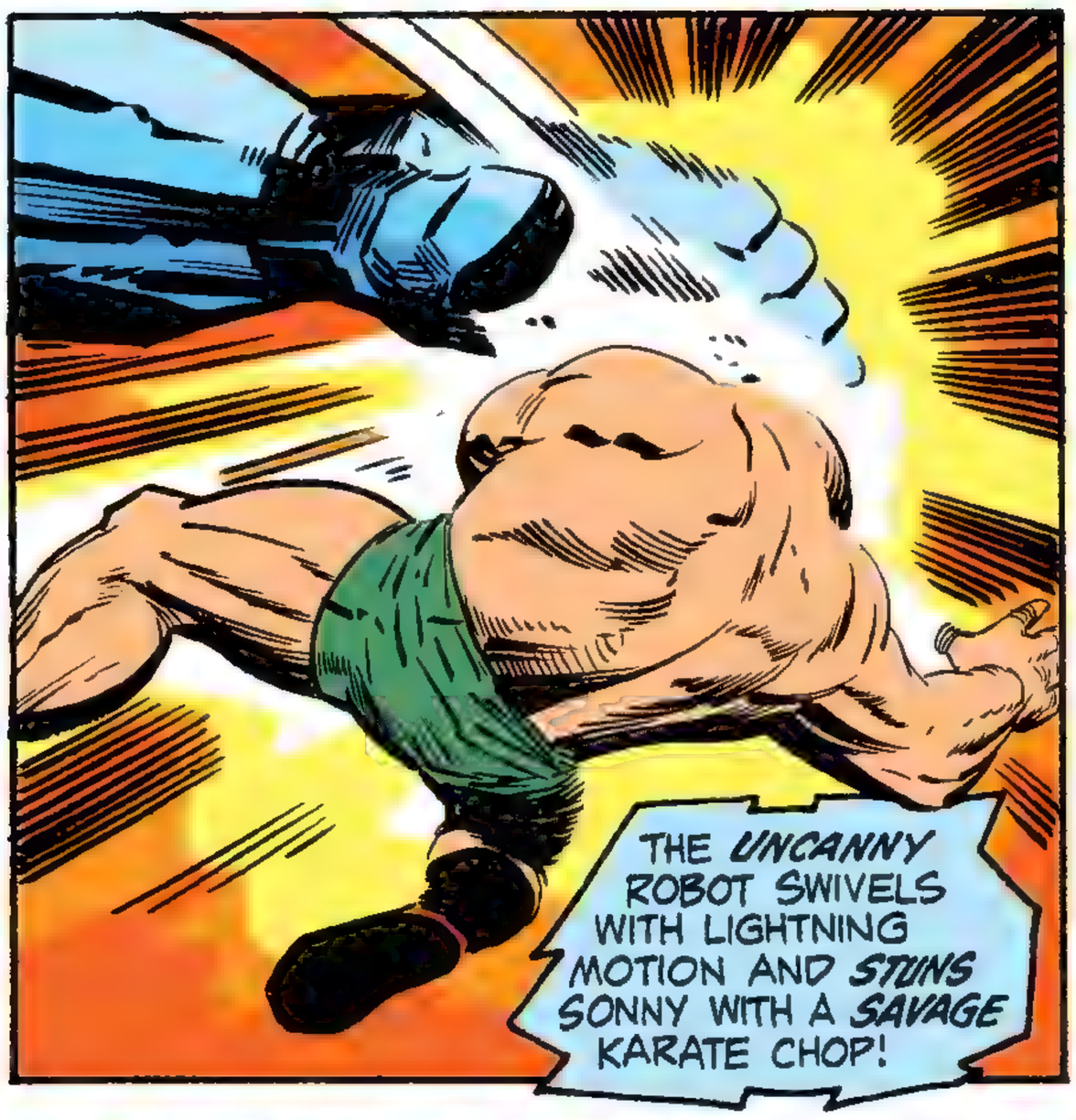
WHAT CAN EQUAL THIS FOR JOY? I FIND IT *STRANGE* THAT DARKSEID WOULD SHUN THIS!

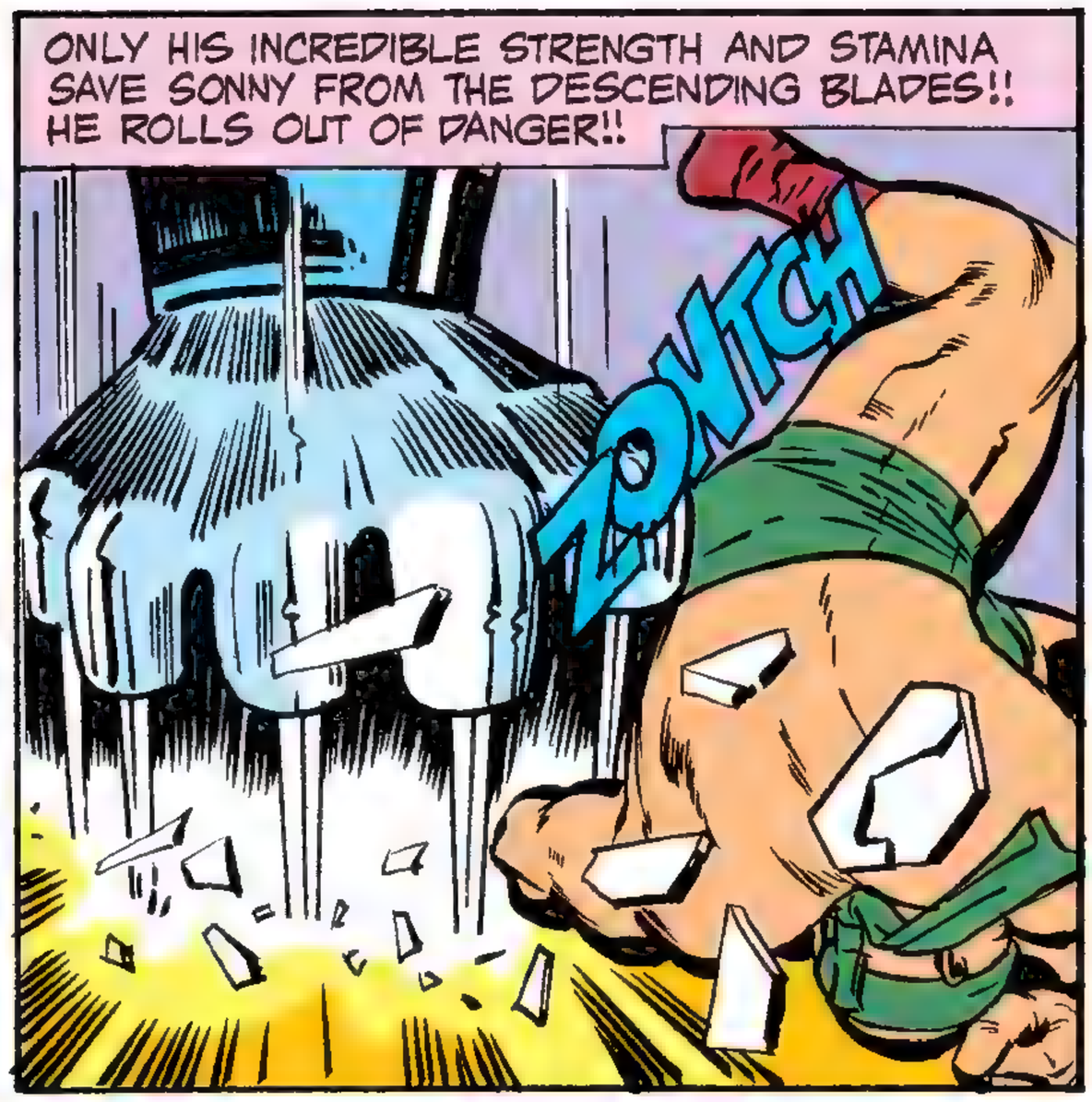
IT'S A *SHORT* DISTANCE FROM DESAAD'S PLAYROOM OF HORROR TO THE ARENA OF COMBAT, WHERE *SONNY SUMO* PLAYS ANOTHER GAME-- FOR DESTINY IS AT WORK TO QUICKLY *CLOSE* THE GAP BETWEEN THEM!

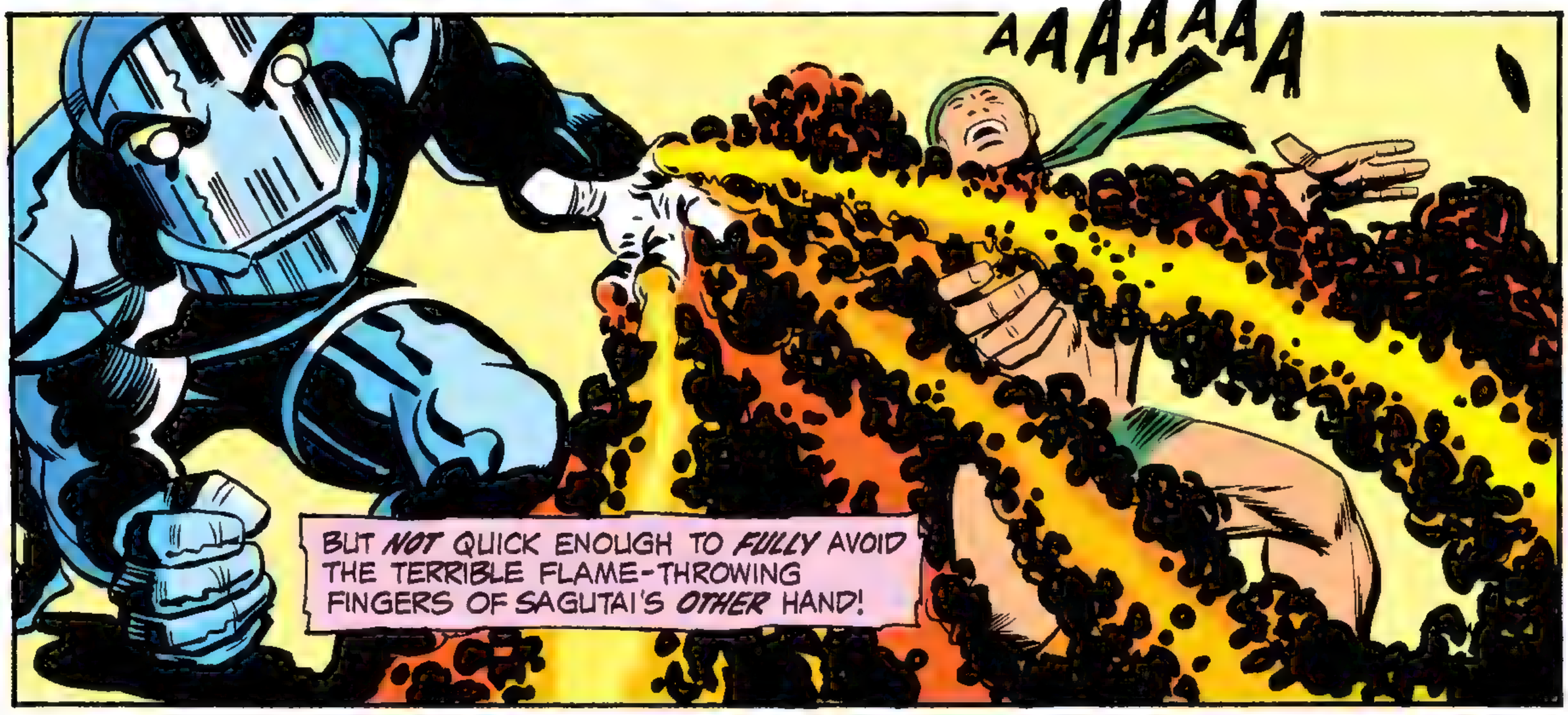
IT'S MORE OF A CIRCUS ACT THAN A SPORT, MISTER FISHER! THE PUBLIC WILL *JAM* THE PLACE TO WATCH SONNY PLAY WITH *DANGER!*

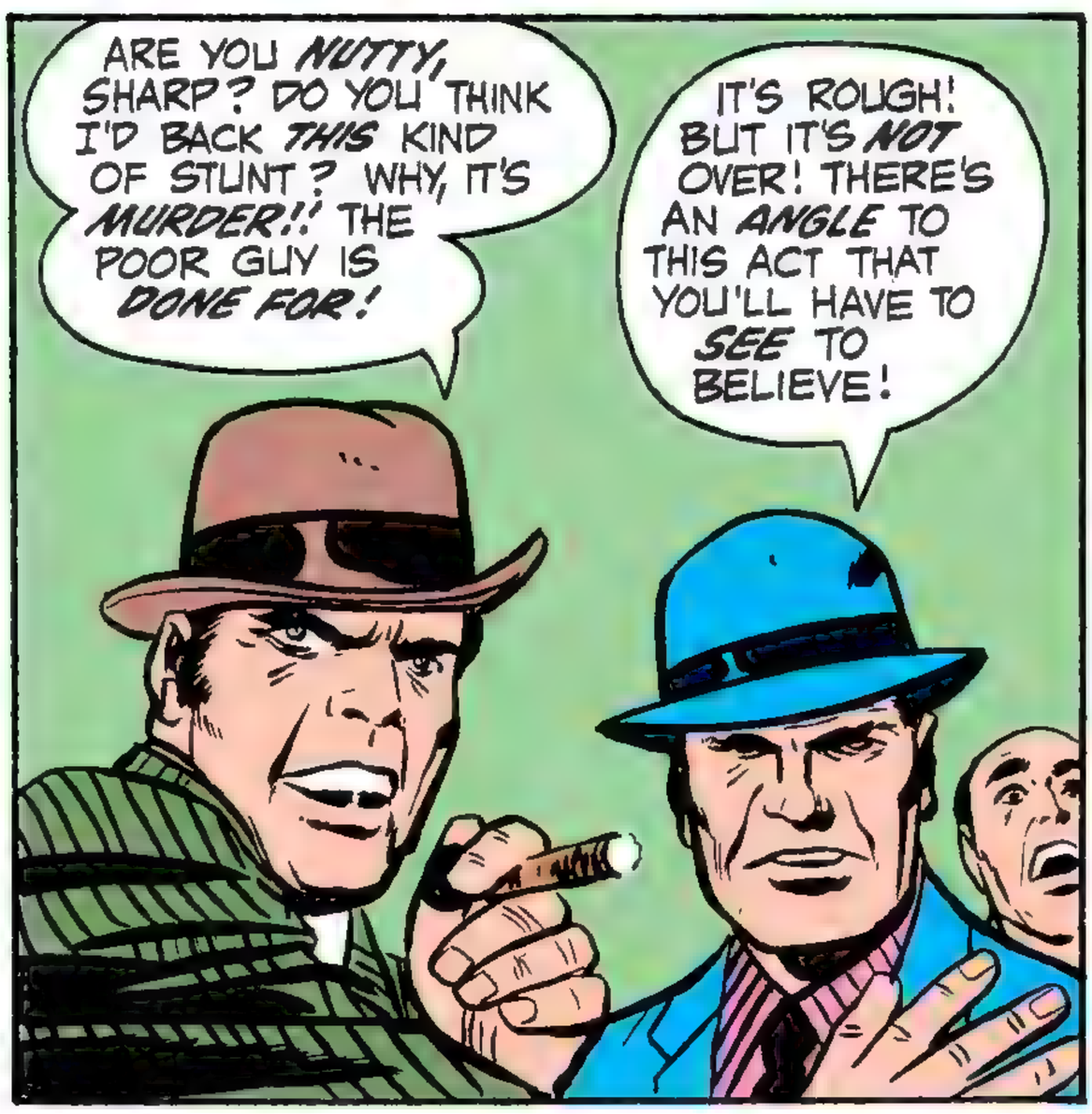
WHO ARE YOU KIDDING, SHARP? YOU MEAN-- *SUDDEN DEATH!*

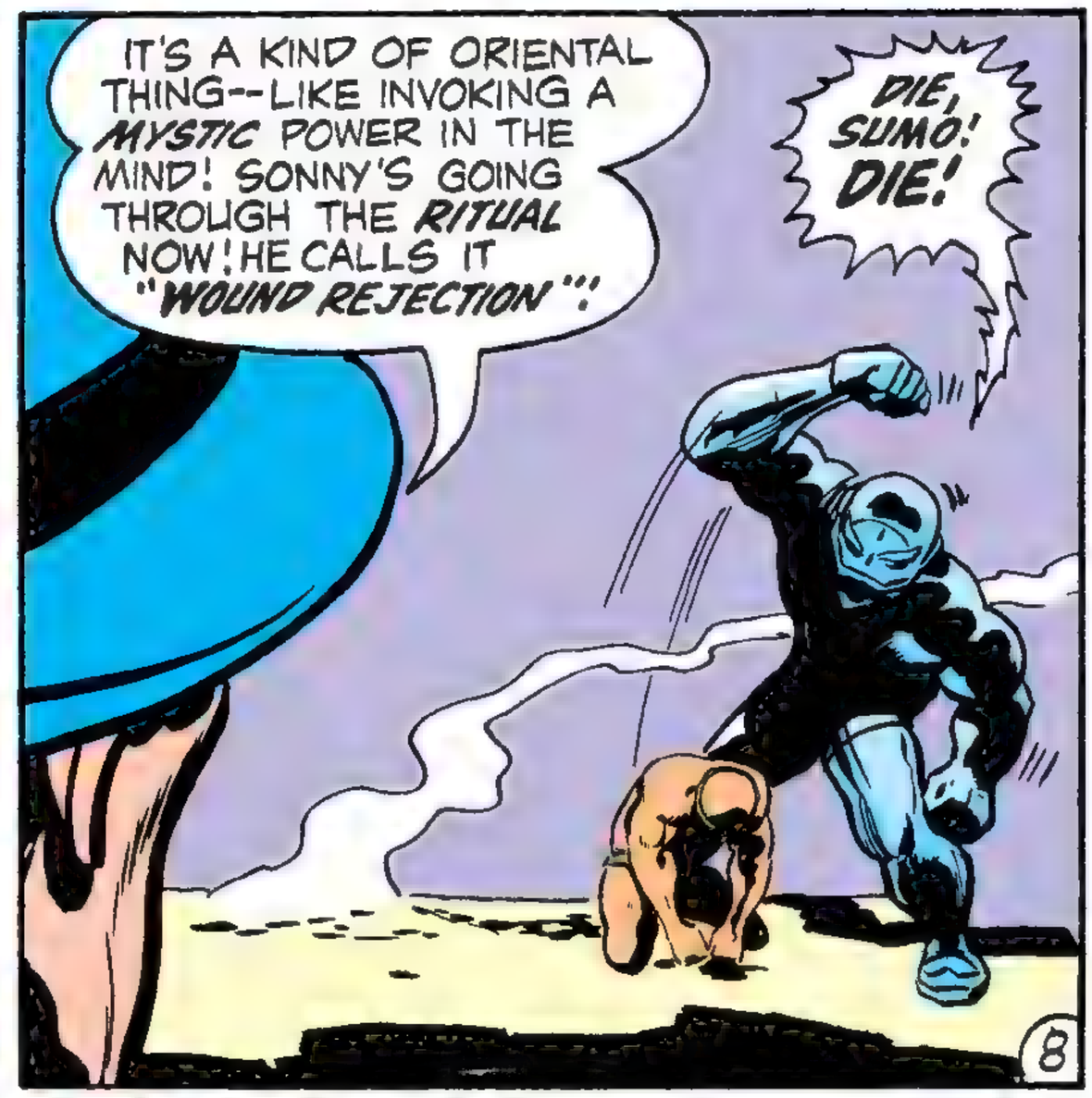



THE *UNCANNY* ROBOT SWIVELS WITH LIGHTNING MOTION AND *STUNS* SONNY WITH A *SAVAGE* KARATE CHOP!


ONLY HIS INCREDIBLE STRENGTH AND STAMINA SAVE SONNY FROM THE DESCENDING BLADES!! HE ROLLS OUT OF DANGER!!
ZONTCH


AAAAAAA
BUT *NOT* QUICK ENOUGH TO *FULLY* AVOID THE TERRIBLE FLAME-THROWING FINGERS OF SAGUTAI'S *OTHER* HAND!

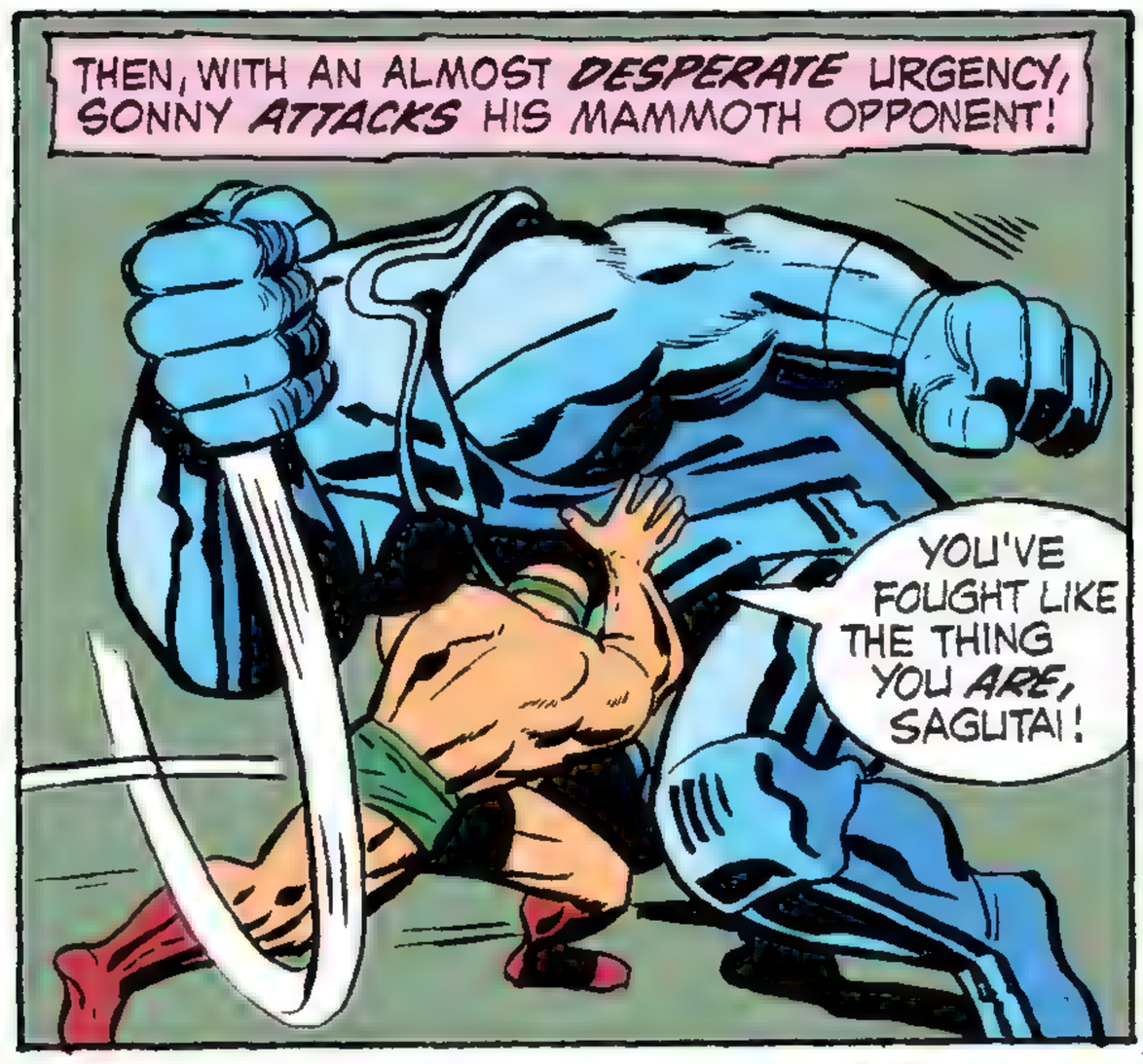

ARE YOU *NUTTY*, SHARP? DO YOU THINK I'D BACK *THIS* KIND OF STUNT? WHY, IT'S *MURDER!!* THE POOR GUY IS *DONE FOR!*
IT'S ROUGH! BUT IT'S *NOT* OVER! THERE'S AN *ANGLE* TO THIS ACT THAT YOU'LL HAVE TO *SEE* TO BELIEVE!

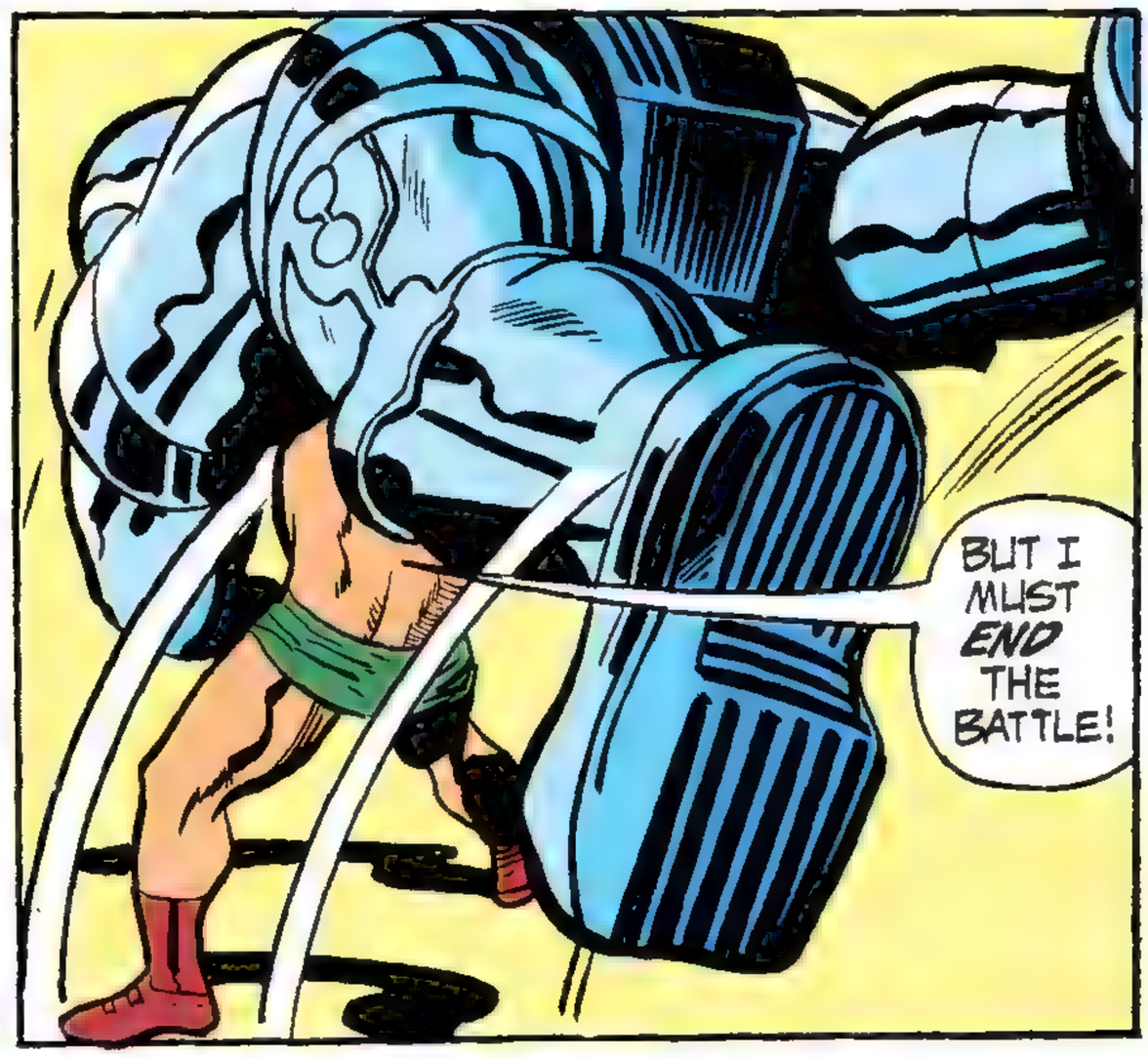

IT'S A KIND OF ORIENTAL THING--LIKE INVOKING A *MYSTIC* POWER IN THE MIND! SONNY'S GOING THROUGH THE *RITUAL* NOW! HE CALLS IT "*WOUND REJECTION*"!
DIE, SUMO! DIE!
8

FOR A FLEETING SECOND, SONNY'S SCORCHED FACE BECOMES A RIGID MASK OF CONCENTRATION!

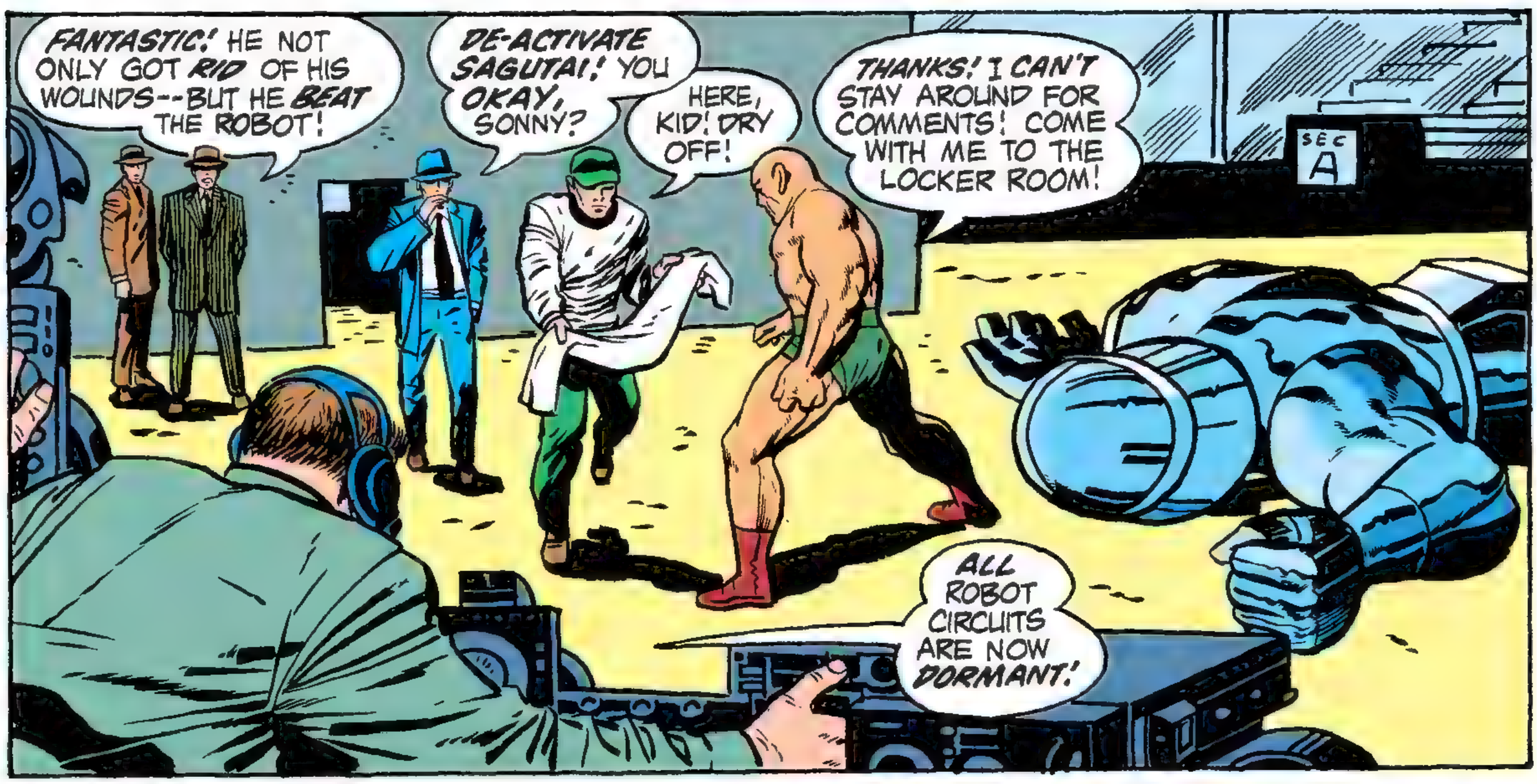
INSIDE HIM, ANCIENT CENTURIES AND EVEN MORE ANCIENT PRACTICES COME ALIVE! EXPAND! TAKE HOLD!--AND DO THEIR WORK!!

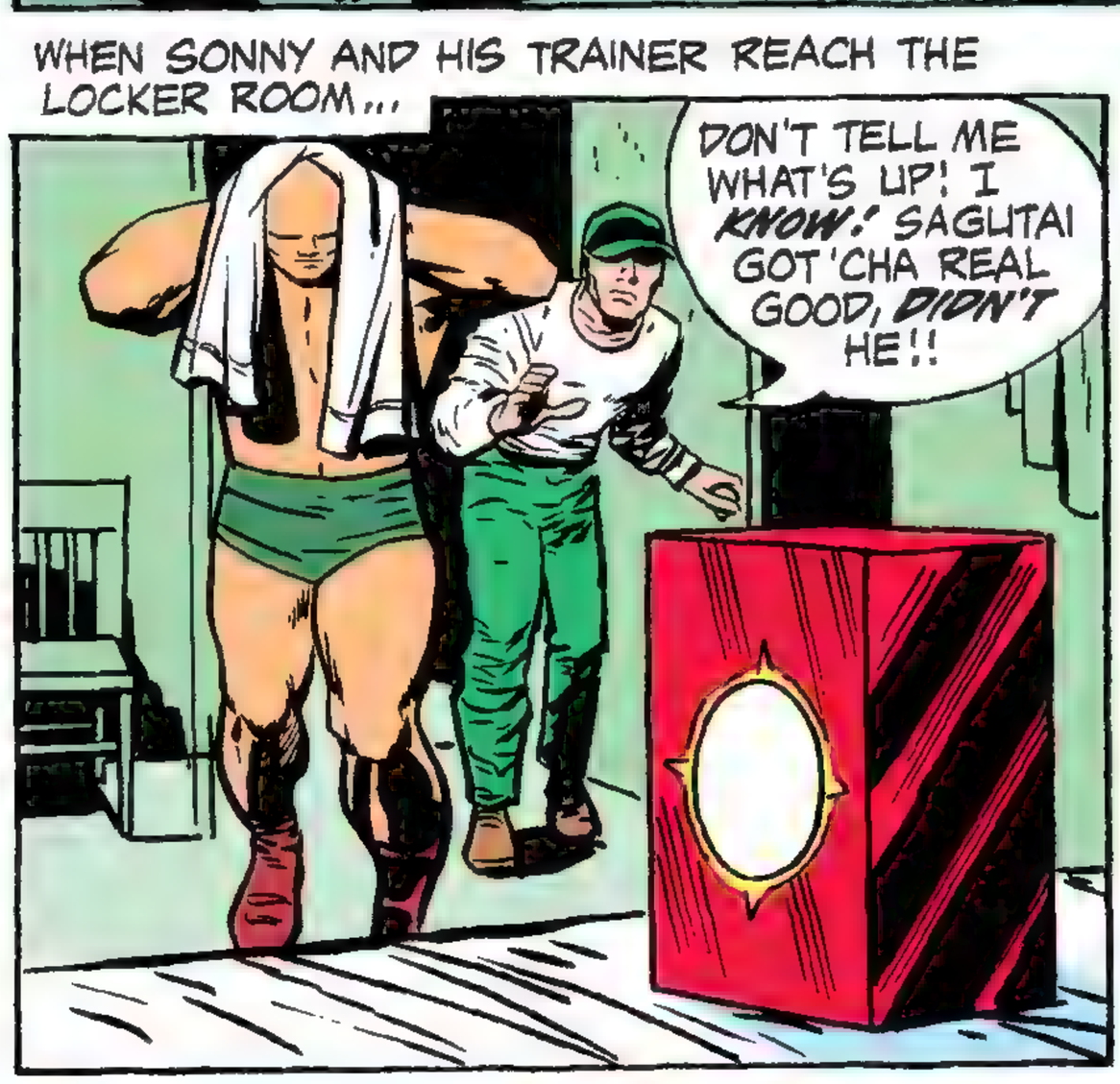
THEN, QUICKLY, THE HEAD RISES! THE FACE IS *STRONG! CLEAN! UNMARKED* BY PAIN OR WOUND!

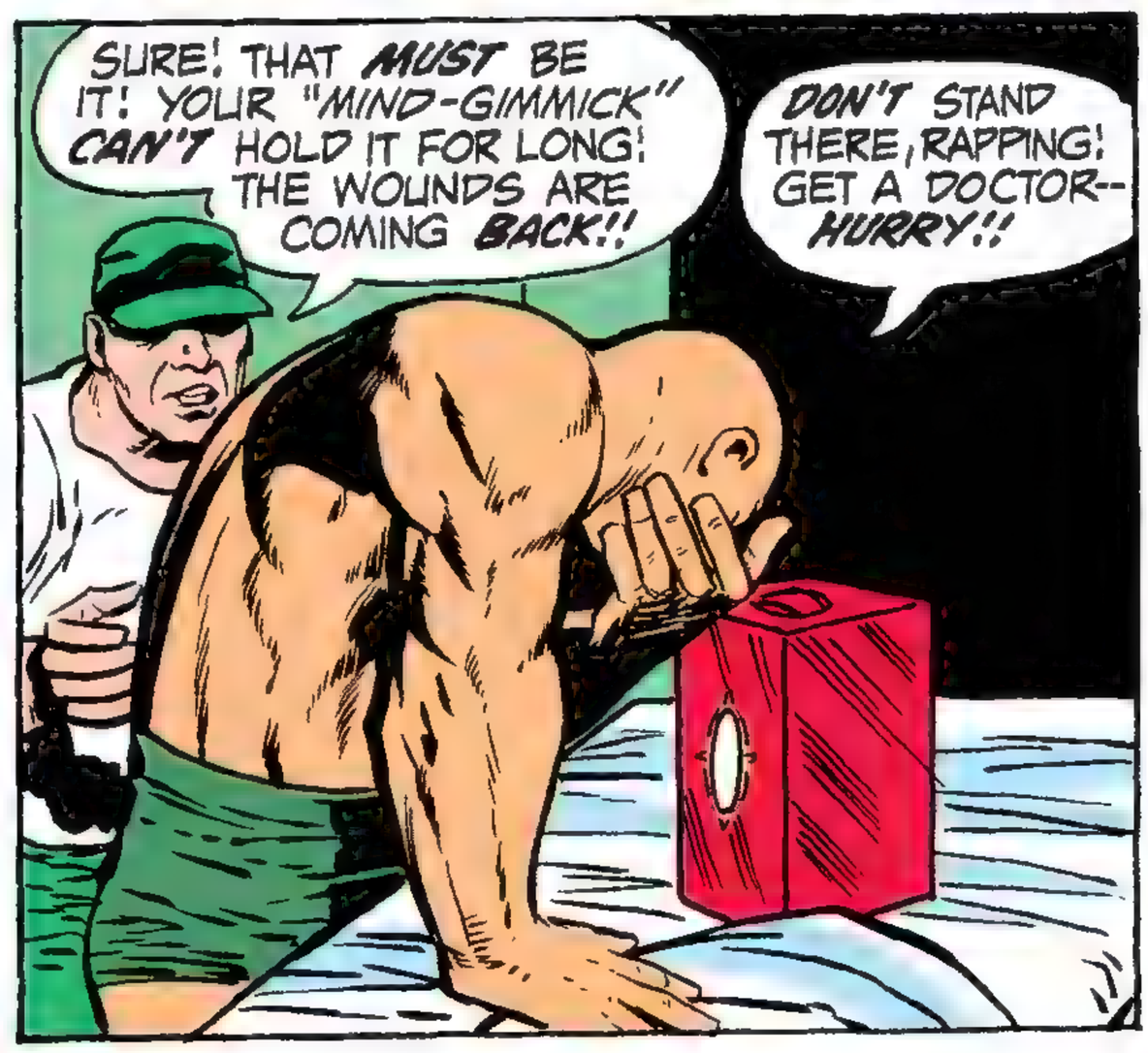

THEN, WITH AN ALMOST *DESPERATE* URGENCY, SONNY *ATTACKS* HIS MAMMOTH OPPONENT!
YOU'VE FOUGHT LIKE THE THING YOU *ARE*, SAGUTAI!


BUT I MUST *END* THE BATTLE!

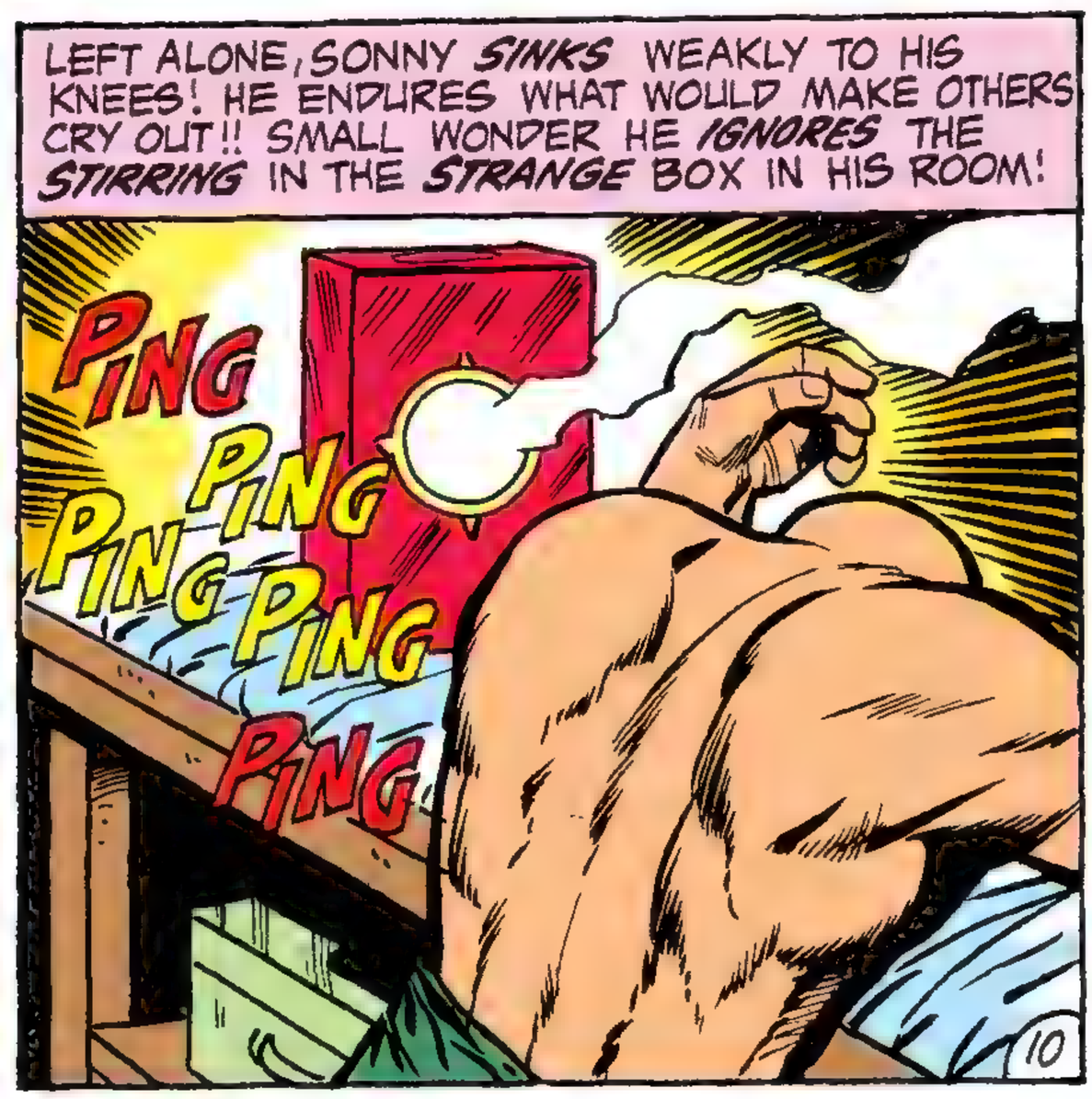
KRA ASH
9

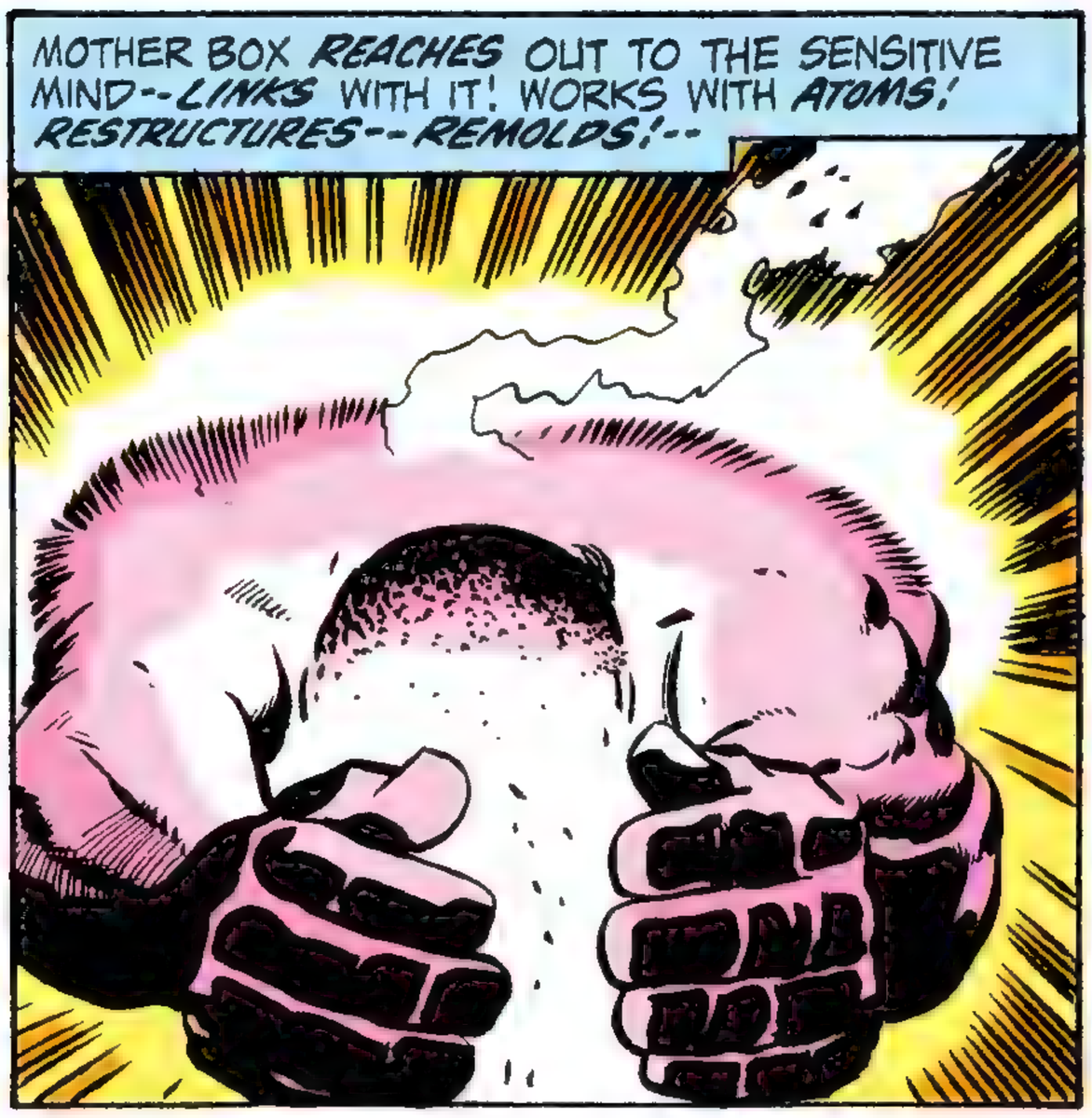

FANTASTIC! HE NOT ONLY GOT RID OF HIS WOUNDS--BUT HE BEAT THE ROBOT!
DE-ACTIVATE SAGUTAI! YOU OKAY, SONNY?
HERE, KID! DRY OFF!
THANKS! I CAN'T STAY AROUND FOR COMMENTS! COME WITH ME TO THE LOCKER ROOM!
SEC A
ALL ROBOT CIRCUITS ARE NOW DORMANT!

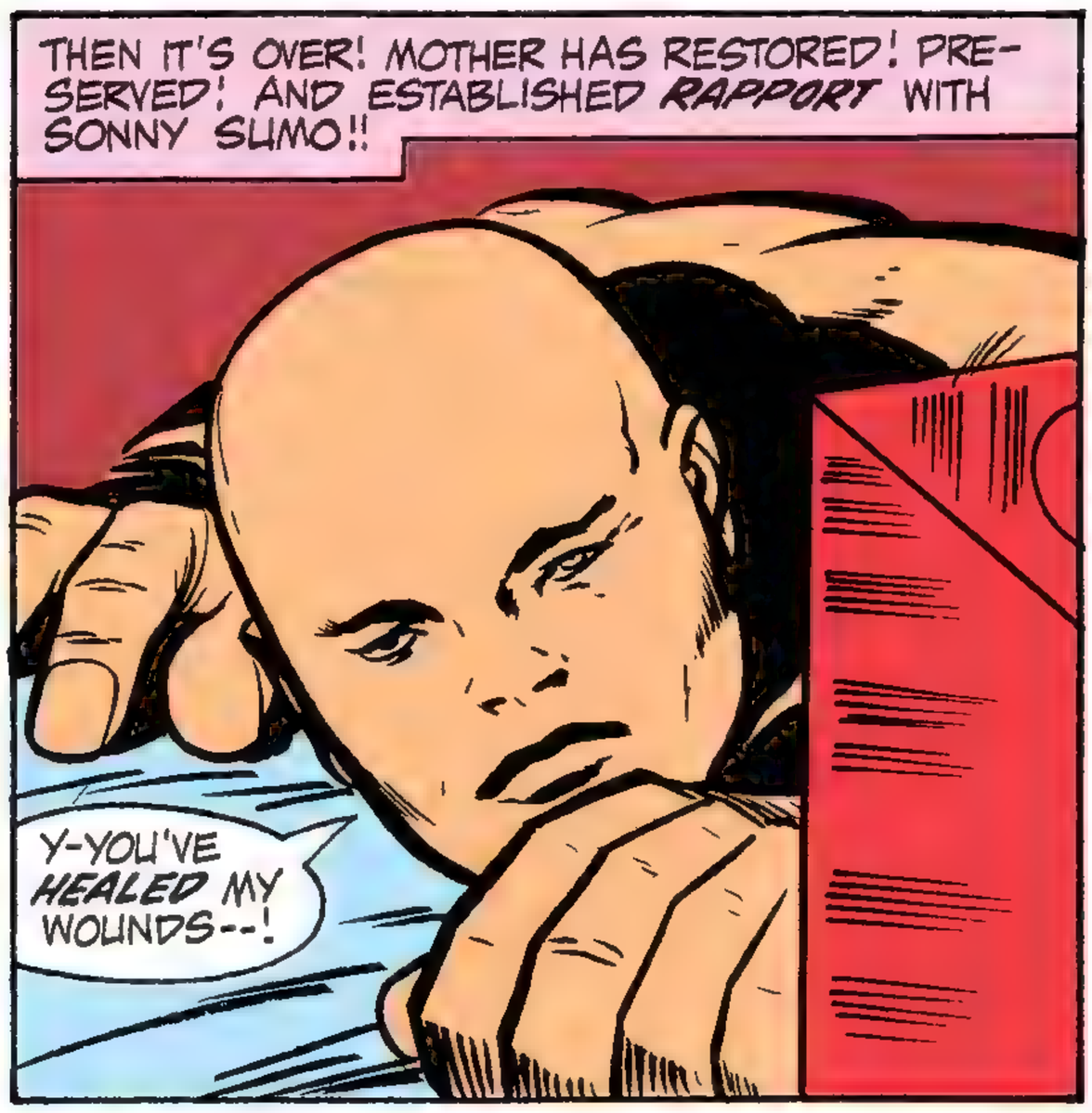

WHEN SONNY AND HIS TRAINER REACH THE LOCKER ROOM...
DON'T TELL ME WHAT'S UP! I KNOW! SAGUTAI GOT 'CHA REAL GOOD, DIDN'T HE!!

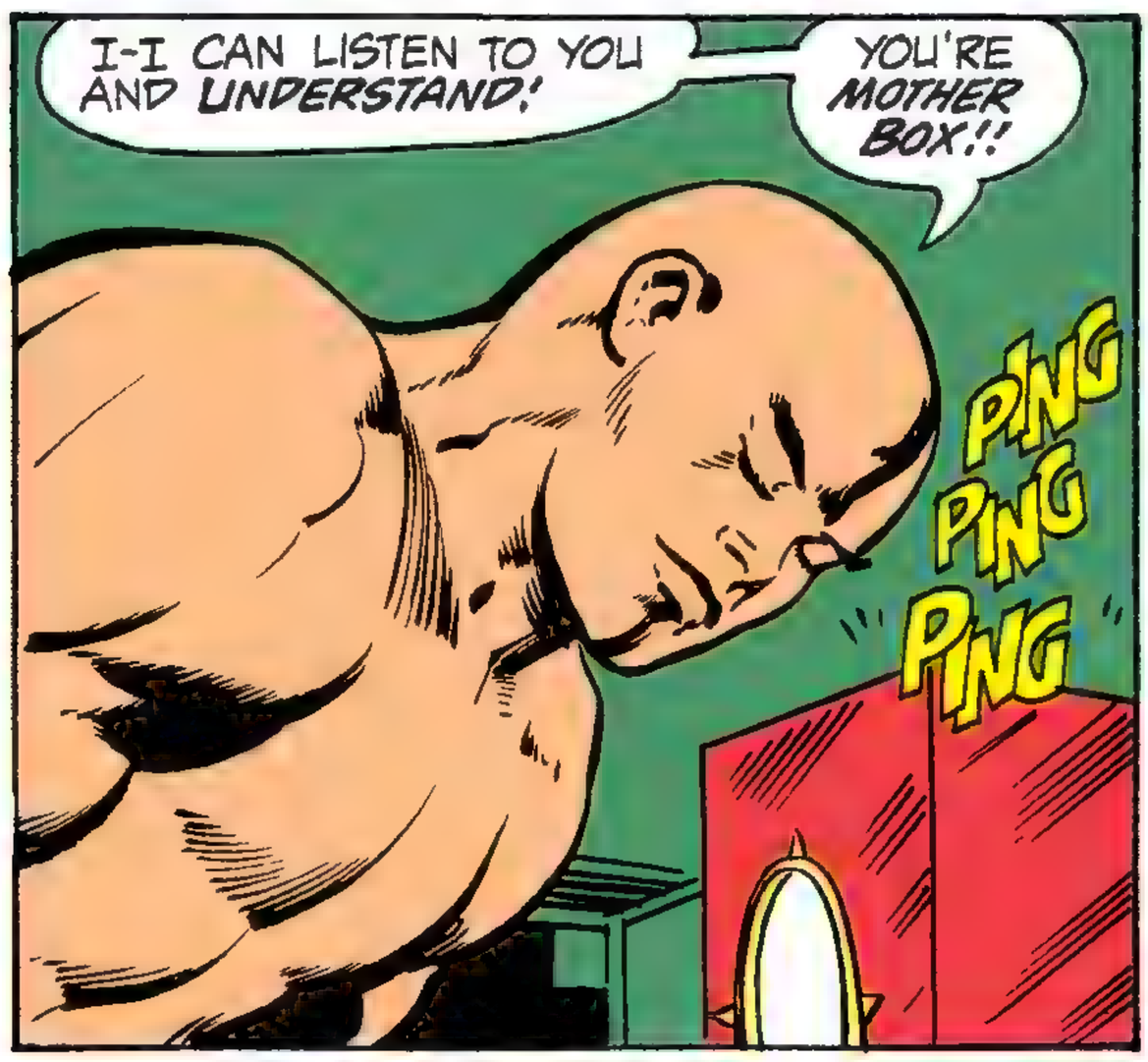

SURE! THAT MUST BE IT! YOUR "MIND-GIMMICK" CAN'T HOLD IT FOR LONG! THE WOUNDS ARE COMING BACK!!
DON'T STAND THERE, RAPPING! GET A DOCTOR--HURRY!!

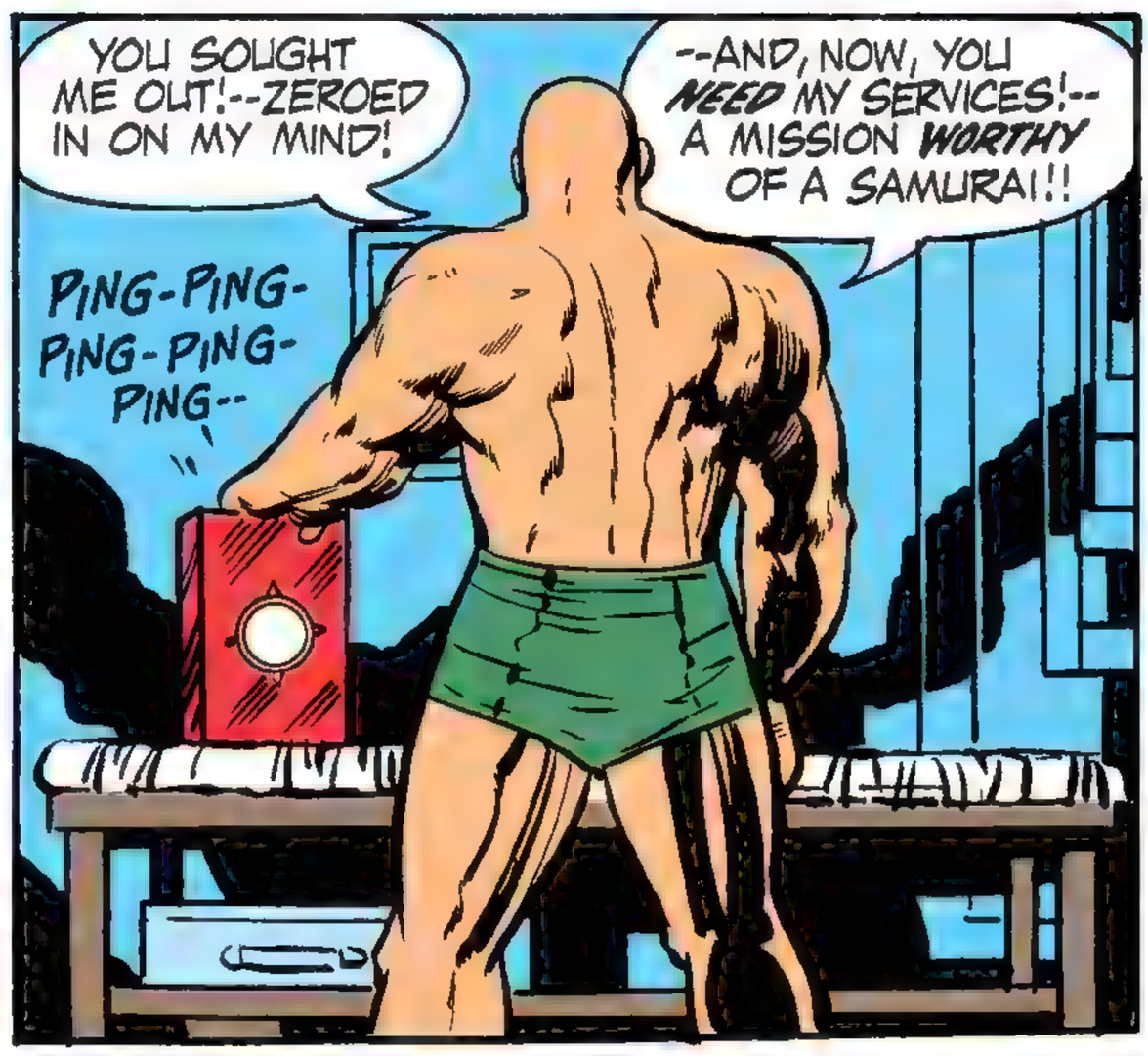
SAGUTAI WAS GOOD TONIGHT! THIS WON'T--BE--EASY-- TO--HEAL--
YOU WON'T BATTLE AN ORDINARY PRO!! OH, NO! YOU'RE A SAMURAI! YOU GOTTA HAVE BIG ODDS AGAINST YOU--

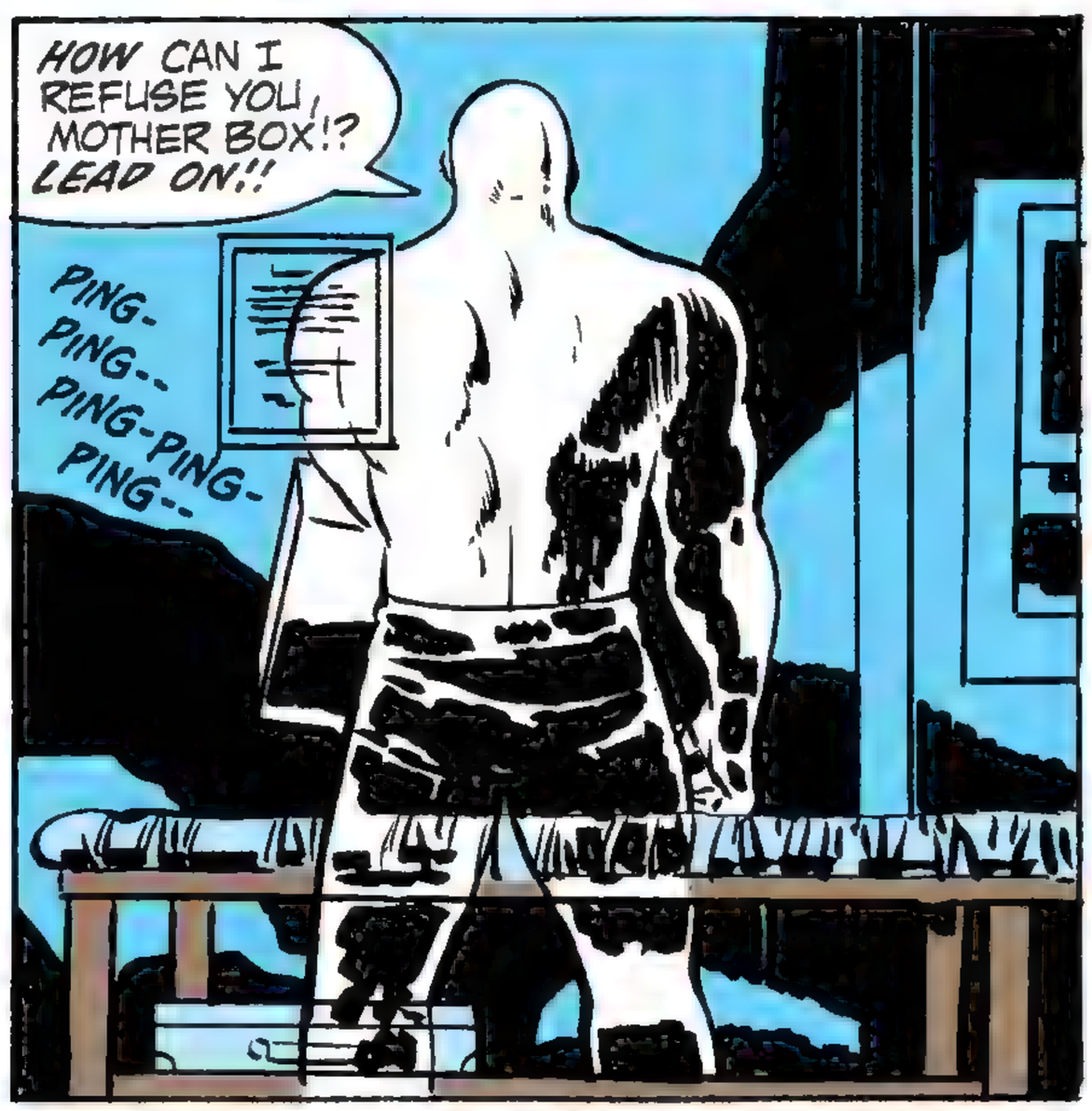

LEFT ALONE, SONNY SINKS WEAKLY TO HIS KNEES! HE ENDURES WHAT WOULD MAKE OTHERS CRY OUT!! SMALL WONDER HE IGNORES THE STIRRING IN THE STRANGE BOX IN HIS ROOM!
PING PING PING PING PING
10

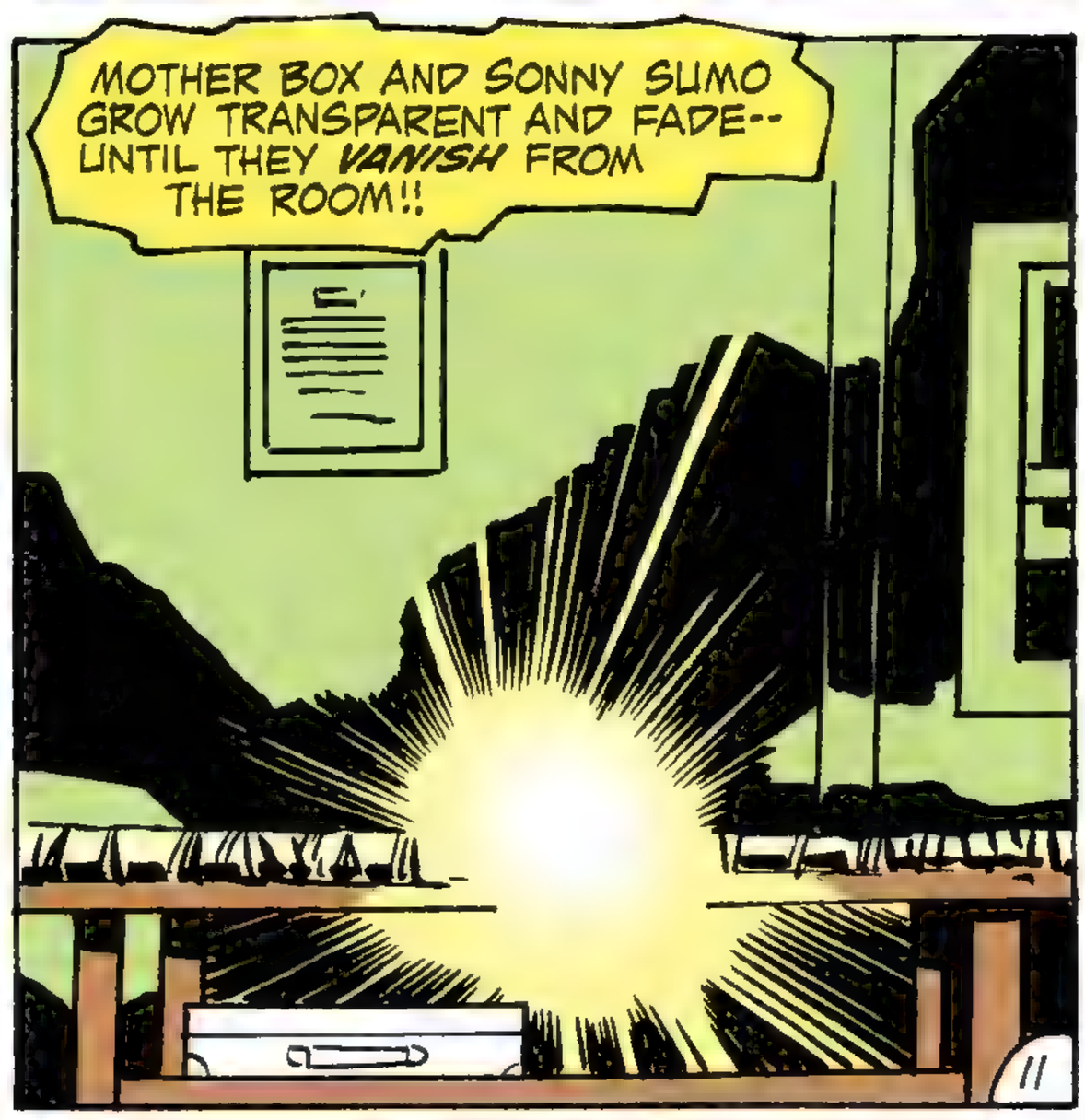

MOTHER BOX REACHES OUT TO THE SENSITIVE MIND--LINKS WITH IT! WORKS WITH ATOMS! RESTRUCTURES--REMOLDS!--

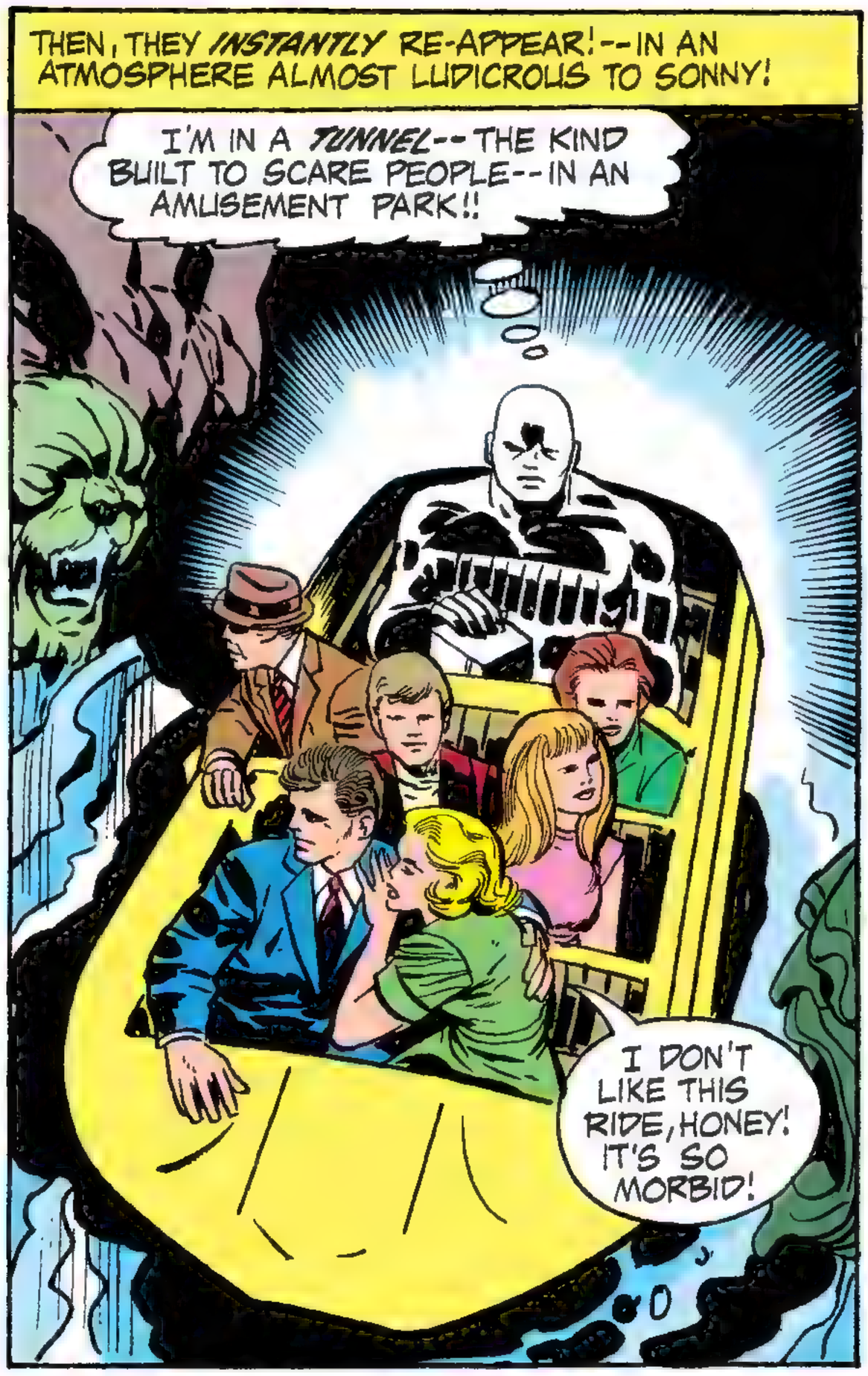

THEN IT'S OVER! MOTHER HAS RESTORED! PRESERVED! AND ESTABLISHED RAPPORT WITH SONNY SUMO!!
Y-YOU'VE HEALED MY WOUNDS--!


I-I CAN LISTEN TO YOU AND UNDERSTAND!
YOU'RE MOTHER BOX!!
PING PING PING

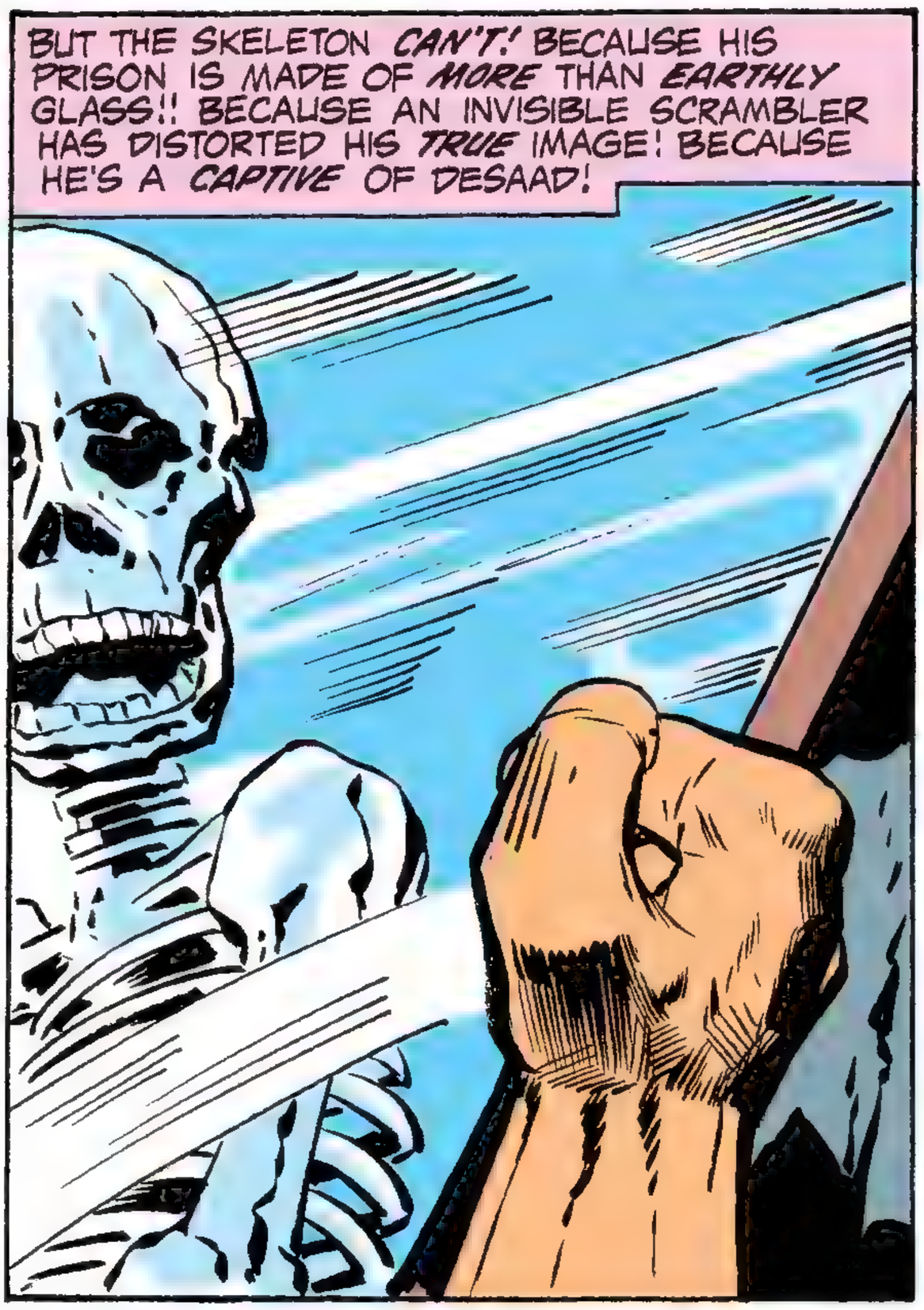

YOU SOUGHT ME OUT!--ZEROED IN ON MY MIND!
--AND, NOW, YOU NEED MY SERVICES!--A MISSION WORTHY OF A SAMURAI!!
PING-PING-PING-PING--

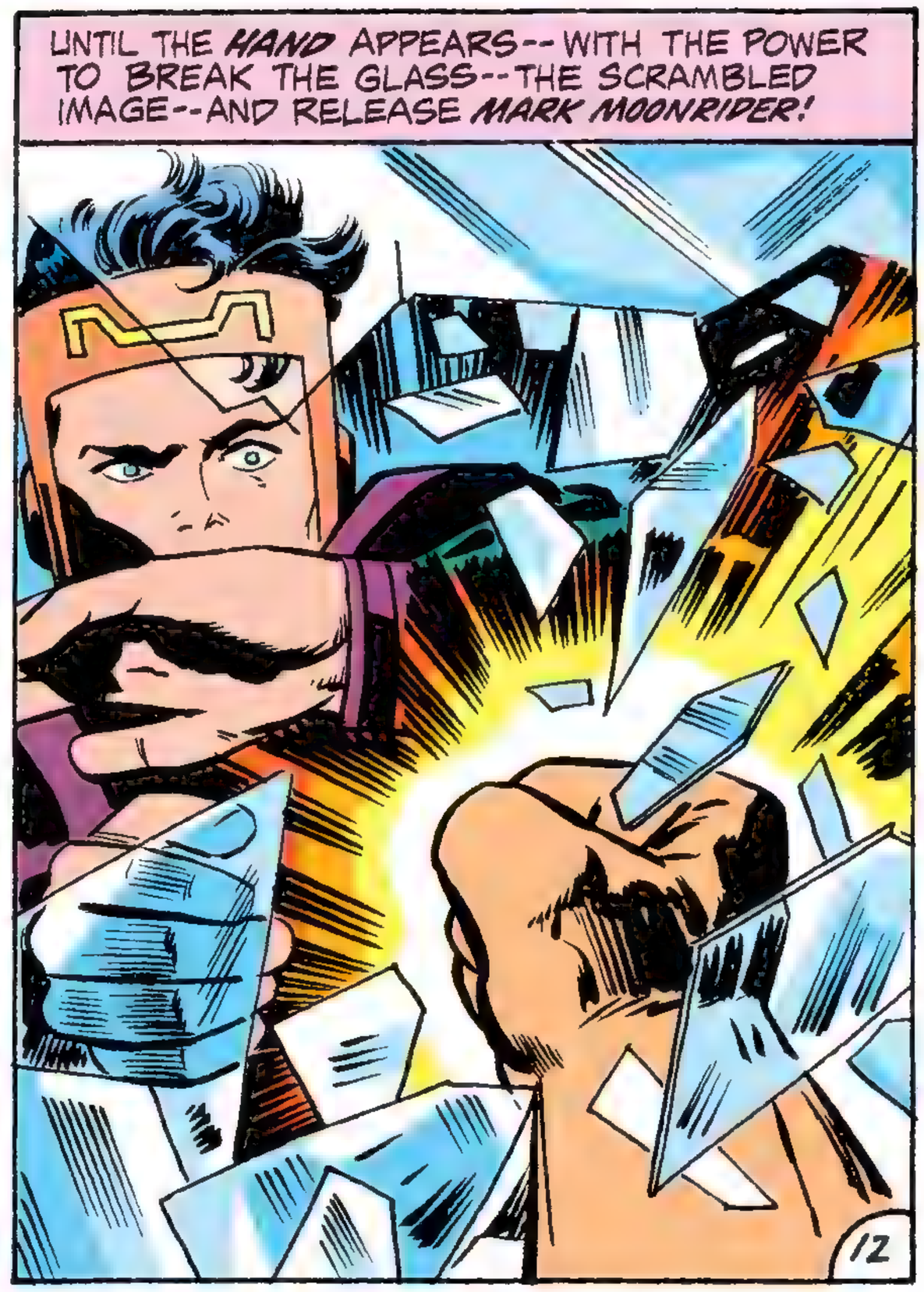

HOW CAN I REFUSE YOU, MOTHER BOX!? LEAD ON!!
PING-PING--PING-PING-PING--


MOTHER BOX AND SONNY SUMO GROW TRANSPARENT AND FADE--UNTIL THEY VANISH FROM THE ROOM!!


THEN, THEY *INSTANTLY* RE-APPEAR!--IN AN ATMOSPHERE ALMOST LUDICROUS TO SONNY!
I'M IN A *TUNNEL*--THE KIND BUILT TO SCARE PEOPLE--IN AN AMUSEMENT PARK!!
I DON'T LIKE THIS RIDE, HONEY! IT'S SO MORBID!

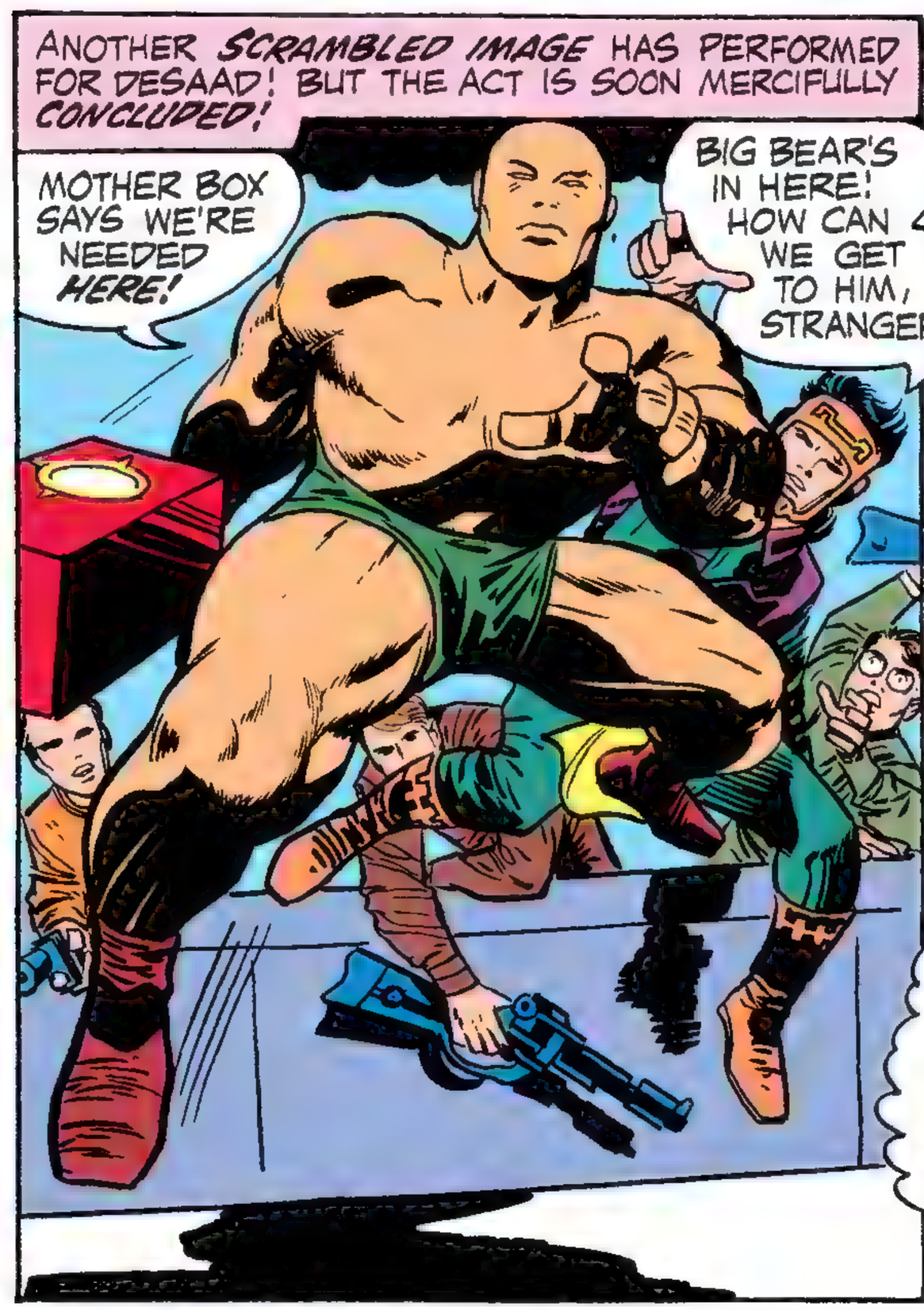
ALL THOSE *HORRID* FACES POPPING OUT AT US! *UGH!*
THAT SKELETON'S FUNNY! HE'S JUMPING ABOUT, LIKE HE'S TRYING TO *BREAK* OUT OF HIS CASE!

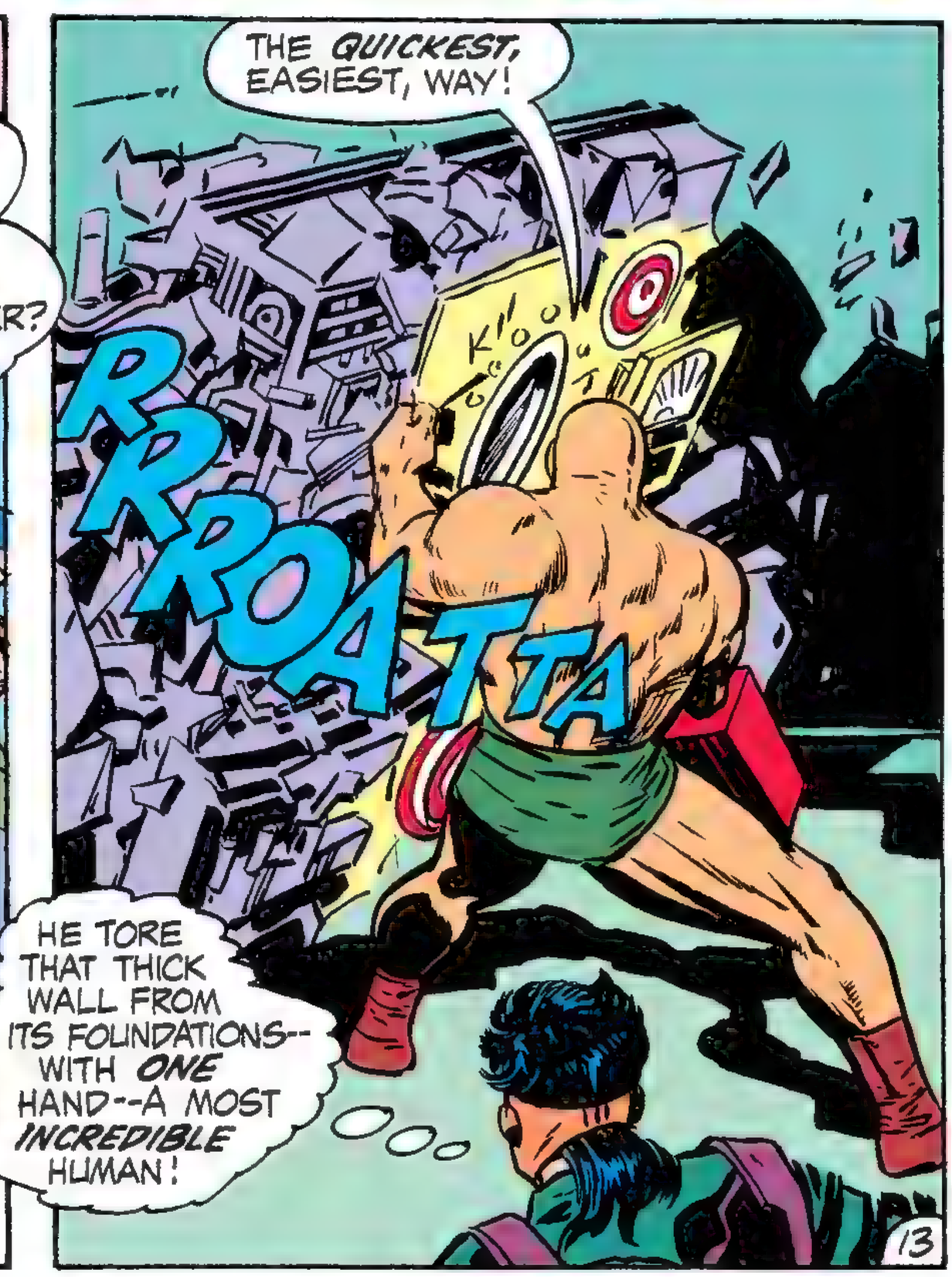

BUT THE SKELETON *CAN'T!* BECAUSE HIS PRISON IS MADE OF *MORE* THAN *EARTHLY* GLASS!! BECAUSE AN INVISIBLE SCRAMBLER HAS DISTORTED HIS *TRUE* IMAGE! BECAUSE HE'S A *CAPTIVE* OF DESAAD!

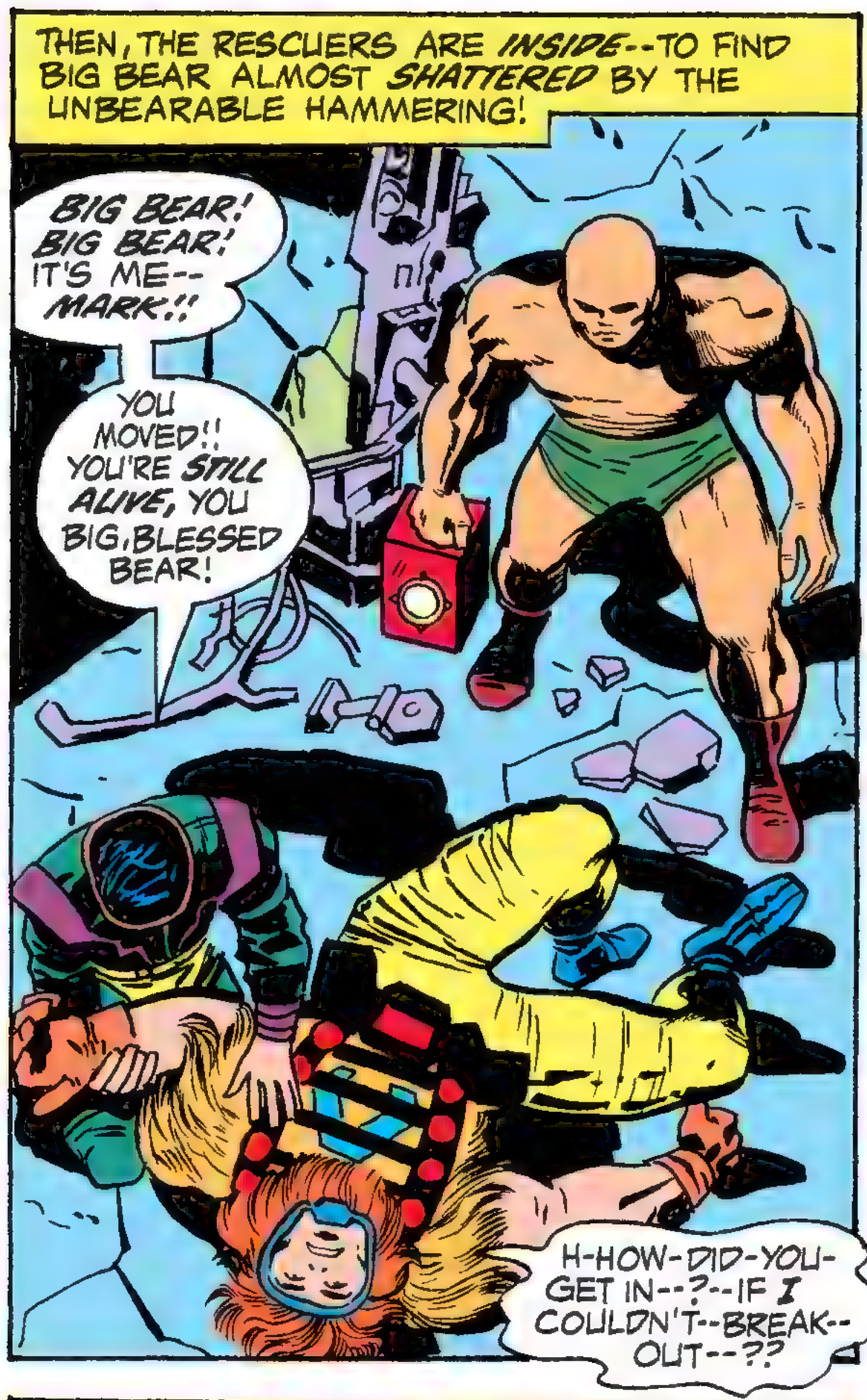

UNTIL THE *HAND* APPEARS--WITH THE POWER TO BREAK THE GLASS--THE SCRAMBLED IMAGE--AND RELEASE *MARK MOONRIDER!*
12

THERE IS ALSO THE QUESTION OF THE "SHOOTING GALLERY"--WHERE THE MAIN ATTRACTION IS A "BIG BEAR"--AN APT NAME FOR THE TARGET!
HE'S BACK AT THE WINDOW AGAIN! LET 'IM HAVE IT, GANG!
ALL TOGETHER, NOW!
SHOOT THE ROBOT BEAR
FIRE!

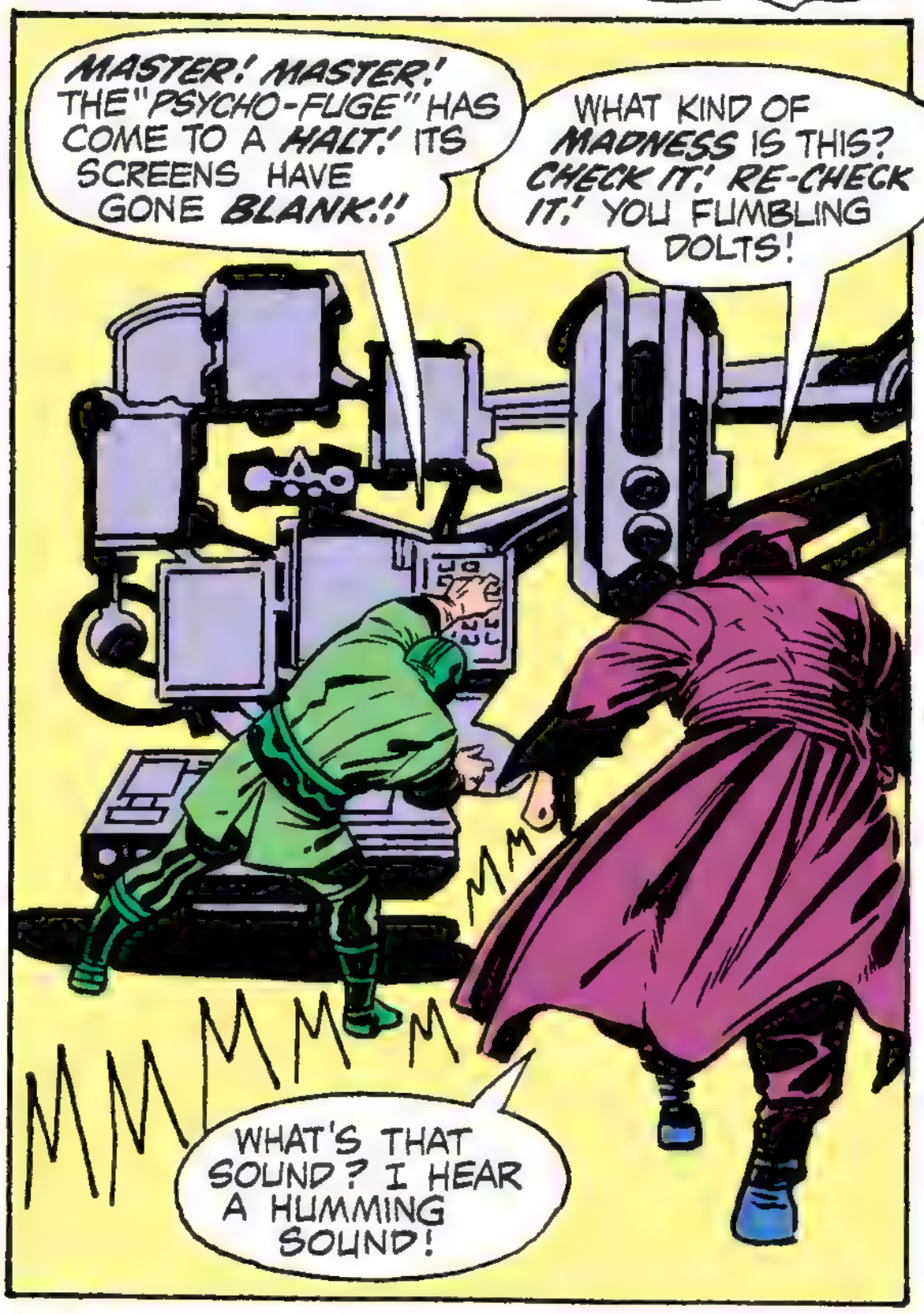
IN THE "SOUND ROOM" BEHIND THE WALL, HIDDEN INSTRUMENTS "PICK UP" THE IMPACT OF THE FUSILLADE OF SHOTS AND MAGNIFY IT TO THE JARRING, BODY-SMASHING EFFECT OF A SMALL ATOM BOMB!
BWOOM


ANOTHER SCRAMBLED IMAGE HAS PERFORMED FOR DESAAD! BUT THE ACT IS SOON MERCIFULLY CONCLUDED!
MOTHER BOX SAYS WE'RE NEEDED HERE!
BIG BEAR'S IN HERE! HOW CAN WE GET TO HIM, STRANGER?


THE QUICKEST, EASIEST, WAY!
RRRATTA
HE TORE THAT THICK WALL FROM ITS FOUNDATIONS--WITH ONE HAND--A MOST INCREDIBLE HUMAN!
13


THEN, THE RESCUERS ARE INSIDE--TO FIND BIG BEAR ALMOST SHATTERED BY THE UNBEARABLE HAMMERING!
BIG BEAR! BIG BEAR! IT'S ME-- MARK!!
YOU MOVED!! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE, YOU BIG, BLESSED BEAR!
H-HOW-DID-YOU-GET IN--?--IF I COULDN'T--BREAK--OUT--??

QUESTION PILES ON QUESTION! WHAT PUZZLES BIG BEAR SOON CONFOUNDS DESAAD HIMSELF!!
SOMETHING'S WRONG!! MY "FEAR-SIPHON!"--IT ISN'T FUNCTIONING!
IMPOSSIBLE, SIRE! TO NEGLECT ITS CARE WOULD MEAN TO RISK YOUR ANGER!

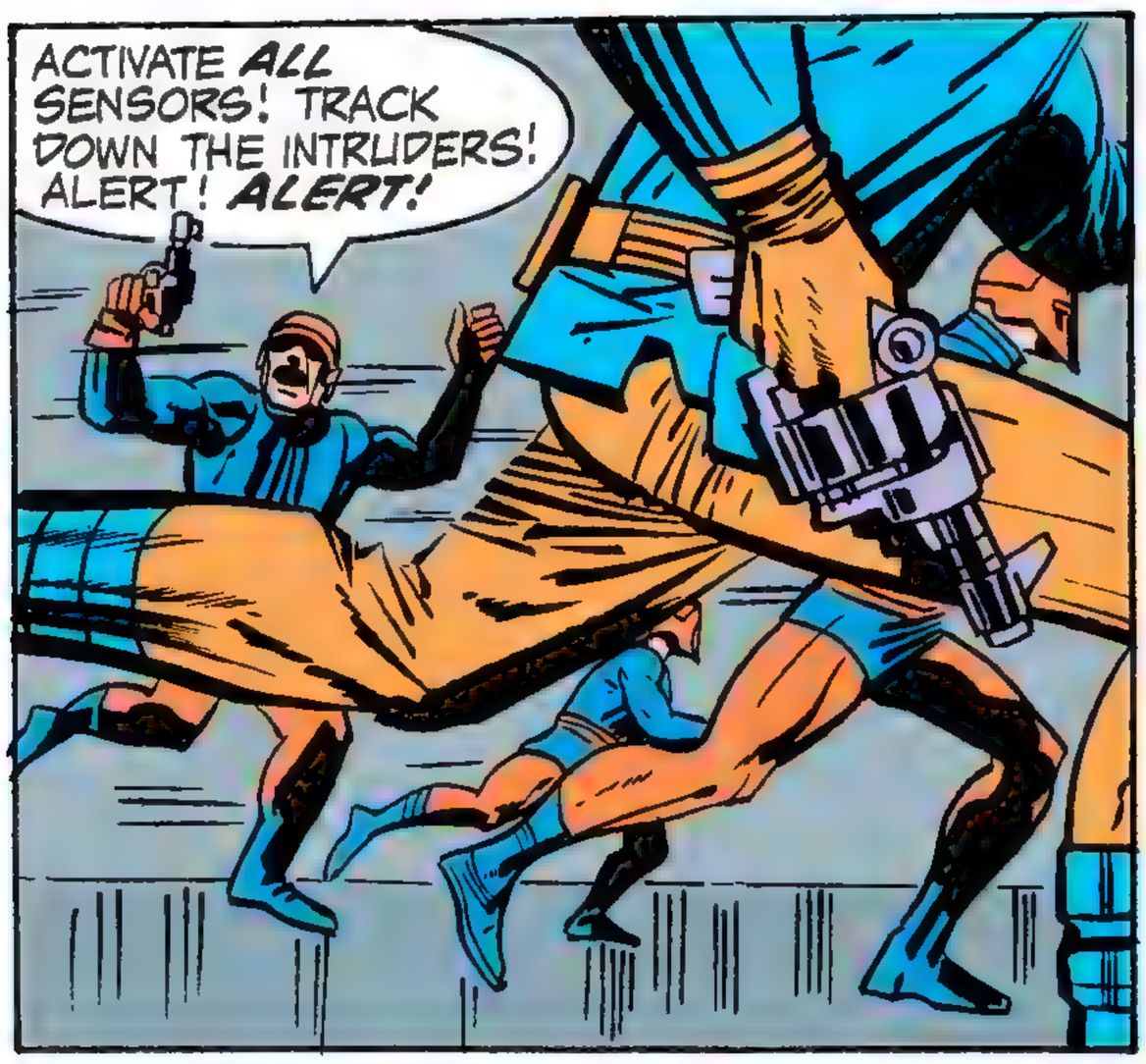

MASTER! MASTER! THE "PSYCHO-FUGE" HAS COME TO A HALT! ITS SCREENS HAVE GONE BLANK!!
WHAT KIND OF MADNESS IS THIS? CHECK IT! RE-CHECK IT! YOU FUMBLING DOLTS!
MMMMMM
WHAT'S THAT SOUND? I HEAR A HUMMING SOUND!

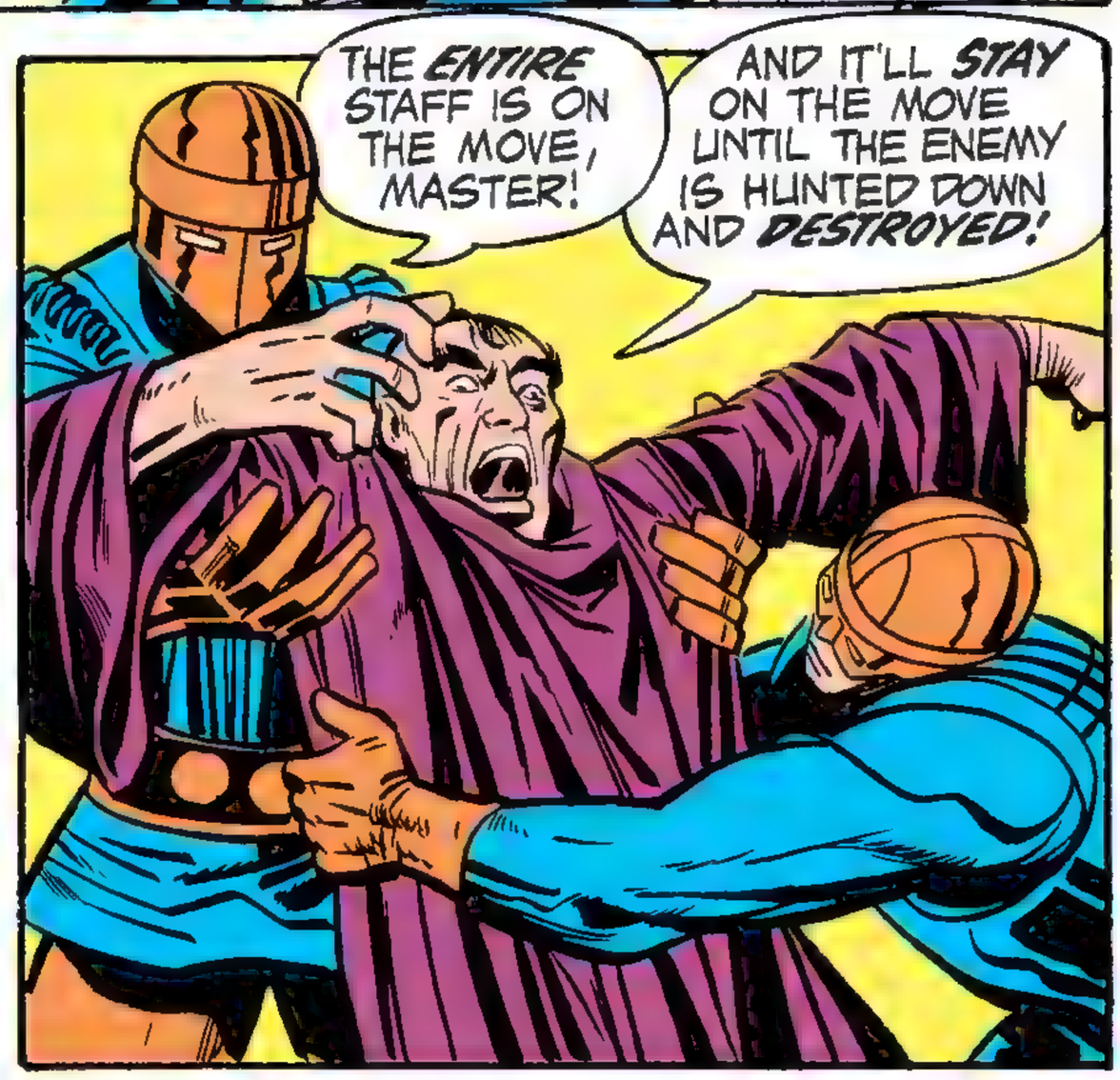
SUDDENLY...
WHOM
14

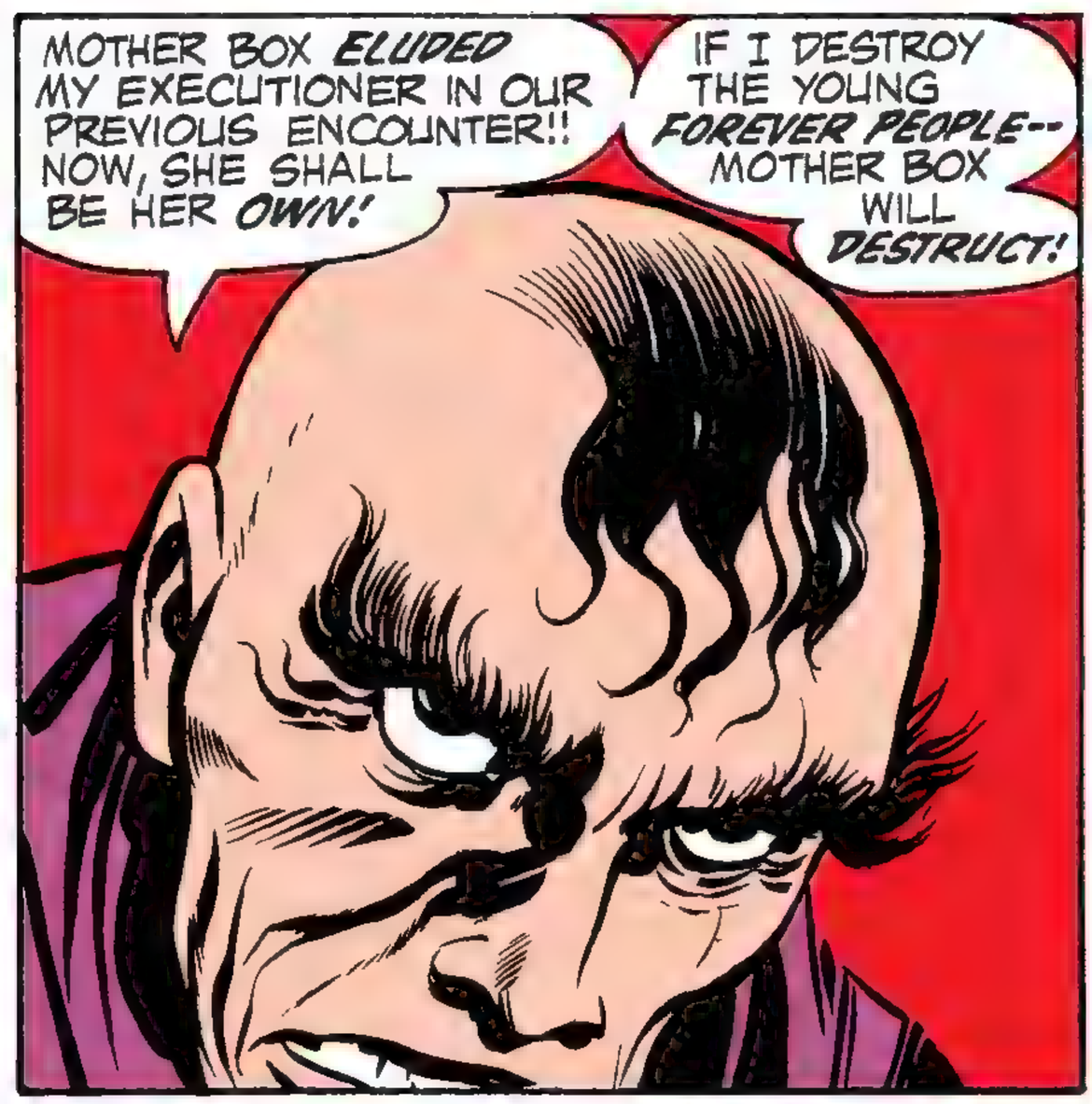
IN THE REALM OF DESAAD'S KIND, WHERE *FORCES* OF *INFINITE* VARIATION ARE HARNESSED FOR MANY PURPOSES--THE MEANING OF *THIS* ONE IS *EVIDENT!*

GUARDS! GUARDS! THERE'S AN ENEMY AMONG US!

AN ENEMY WITH A DAMNABLE *MOTHER BOX!*







OUTSIDE, THE "MONSTERS'" VIEW OF HER IS EQUALLY SCRAMBLED!! THEY FORM AN ENDLESS FILE MEANT TO HONOR HER IN A CONTINUAL PARADE OF HORROR!!

THE DOOR IS OPEN! FILE IN--WHISPER YOUR WORD--AND PASS ON!

I HOPE I SAY THE RIGHT WORD! I CAN USE THE PRIZE MONEY!

WAKE THE SLEEPING PRINCESS! SAY THE MAGIC WORD WIN $1000.00

HOLD IT, FOLKS! THIS EXHIBIT ISN'T QUITE READY TO OPEN! TRY AGAIN TOMORROW! SORRY!

WHA-?

HOW ABOUT THAT! I'M GOING TO COMPLAIN TO THE MANAGEMENT!

WHEN THE CROWD DEPARTS...

EASY, BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!! I KNOW I LOOK LIKE A MONSTER TO YOU! BUT, HOLD ON!

PING PING PING PING

THERE! YOU'RE SMILING! MOTHER BOX HAS NEUTRALIZED DESAAD'S VISUAL SCRAMBLER!

ONLY A PSYCHOTIC LIKE DESAAD WOULD SUBJECT YOU TO THE STRESS OF FACING ENDLESS FRIGHT AND HORROR!

16

AT THAT MOMENT, THE *EVIL* CORE OF HAPPYLAND *EXPLODES* WITH ARMED KILLERS ON THE HUNT!!--AND THEY'RE ALREADY WITHIN *EARSHOT* OF THEIR QUARRY!!

THIS WAY! LISTEN TO THE SIGNALS IN YOUR HELMETS! OUR SENSORS ARE *GUIDING* YOU!

THE SIGNALS ARE GETTING *LOUDER!* WE'RE *CLOSING IN!*

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

WE'VE GOT *COMPANY,* FRIENDS! AND THEY SOUND LIKE THEY'RE WEARING *COMBAT BOOTS!*

DESAAD'S OWN CORPS OF FAITHFULS! THEY'LL DO *ANYTHING* BUT ANGER DESAAD!

AND ANYTHING AT *THIS* POINT ADDS UP TO *KILLING US!*

MOTHER BOX HAS BEEN *BUSY,* HASN'T SHE? I'LL BET SHE'S SENT "*KILL BEAMS*" TO BREAK UP DESAAD'S *TINKER TOYS!*

I DON'T KNOW, BUSHY-BEARD! BUT MOTHER BOX HAS BEEN *VIBRATING* SINCE WE GOT HERE!

WELL, MY HELMET RECEIVERS HEAR HER! SHE'S DIRECTING US TO VYKIN THE BLACK AND SERIFAN!-- A *DOOR*-- STRAIGHT AHEAD!

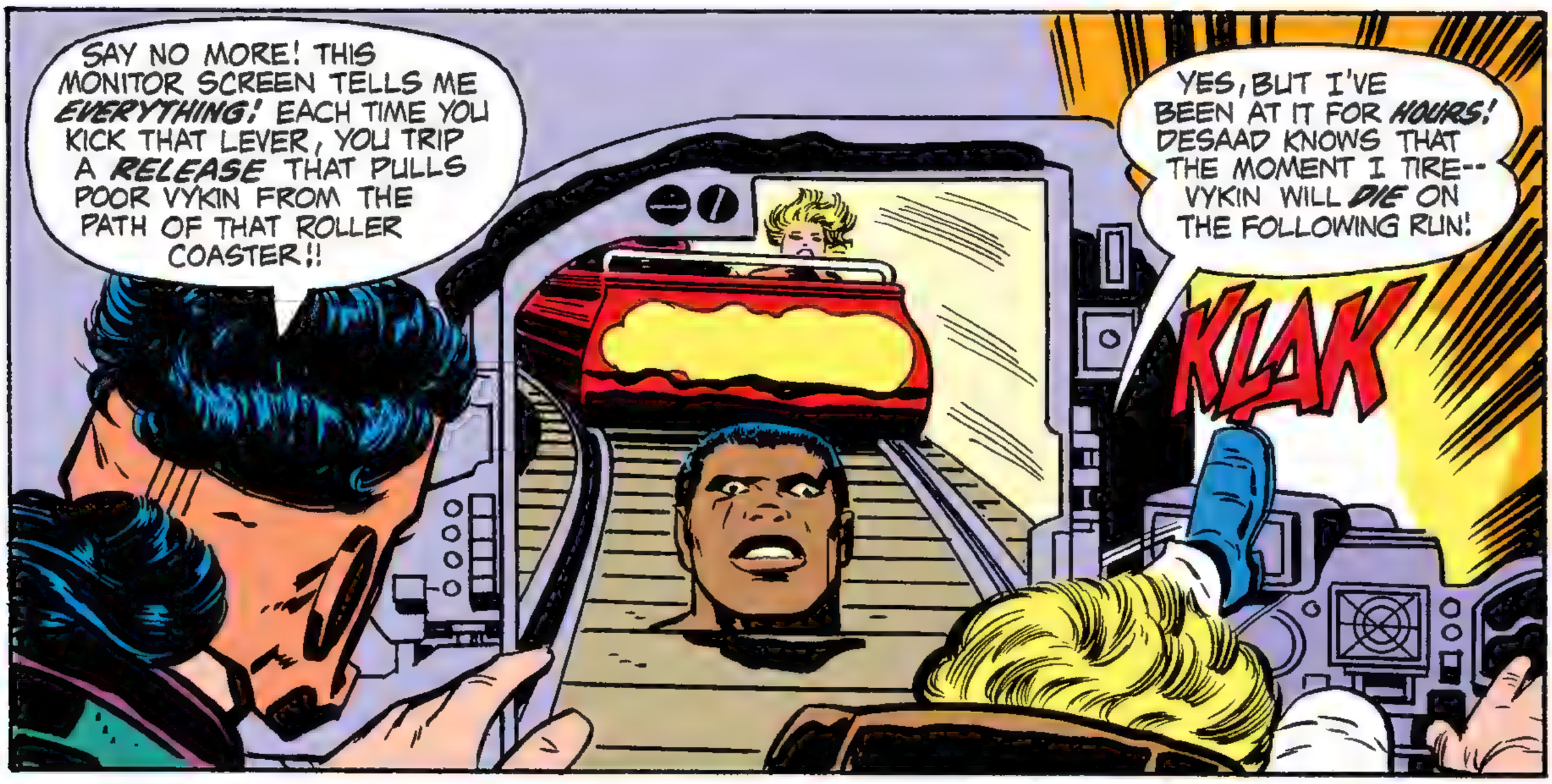
YEA AND VERILY! *PARDON* OUR ANXIOUS BEHAVIOR, SIR! BUT WE FEEL RATHER INSECURE IN HAPPY-LAND!

SERIFAN! WHAT DEVIL'S TRICK HAS DESAAD *FORCED* ON YOU!?

BAM

A *SIMPLE* ONE, MARK! I'VE *GOT* TO KEEP KICKING HOME THIS PEDAL WITH MY FOOT!

17


SAY NO MORE! THIS MONITOR SCREEN TELLS ME EVERYTHING! EACH TIME YOU KICK THAT LEVER, YOU TRIP A RELEASE THAT PULLS POOR VYKIN FROM THE PATH OF THAT ROLLER COASTER!!
YES, BUT I'VE BEEN AT IT FOR HOURS! DESAAD KNOWS THAT THE MOMENT I TIRE-- VYKIN WILL DIE ON THE FOLLOWING RUN!
KLAK

SOMEWHERE, OUTSIDE, VYKIN THE BLACK, BOUND IN A TRAP-SEAT, IS YANKED DOWN, BEFORE THE TRAIN OF CARS RUSHES PAST WHERE HIS HEAD WAS EXPOSED...
VROOOM
WUMP
THEN, ALMOST MAGICALLY, THE MAGNET'C CABLES HOLDING VYKIN BEGIN TO UNWIND!
I-I'M FREE! FREE!
MOTHER BOX IS AT WORK! MY MIND IS SO ATTUNED TO HER WAVES--I CAN HEAR HER WITHOUT MY HELMET!
VYKIN IS ON HIS WAY! HE CAN HEAR YOU! IN UNION WITH YOUR MIND, MOTHER BOX CAN CREATE WAVES OF TITANIC POWER!
WE'RE GUIDING HIM TO US! THIS MAKES MY MIND RITUAL SEEM LIKE CHILD'S PLAY!
PING PING PING PING PING
18

SOON AFTER, VYKIN BURSTS INTO THE ROOM-- WITH DESAAD'S HORDE AT HIS HEELS!!

FREEZE! WE DIDN'T KILL YOUR FRIEND! WE'D RATHER DESTROY YOU AS A COMPLETE UNIT!

THAT'S THE LOT OF THEM! READY FOR KILLING!

I'M SORRY, FRIENDS! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE BEHIND ME UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT!

THIS WAY, VYKIN! WE MUST BE TOGETHER-- AT ANY COST!

VERY TOUCHING, YOU NEW GENESIS BRAT! BUT DESAAD WOULDN'T APPRECIATE IT! FIRE AT MY COMMAND!

READY TO FIRE-- FOR APOKOLIPS!

READY TO FIRE FOR GREAT DARKSEID!

FOR DESAAD! WHOM WE SERVE WITH FIDELITY!

SUDDENLY, THE ROOM'S LIGHT DIMS-- AND, LIKE DISTANT ROLLING THUNDER, THE SOUND OF RISING FORCE FILLS THE STIFLING AIR!

LOWER YOUR WEAPONS!!

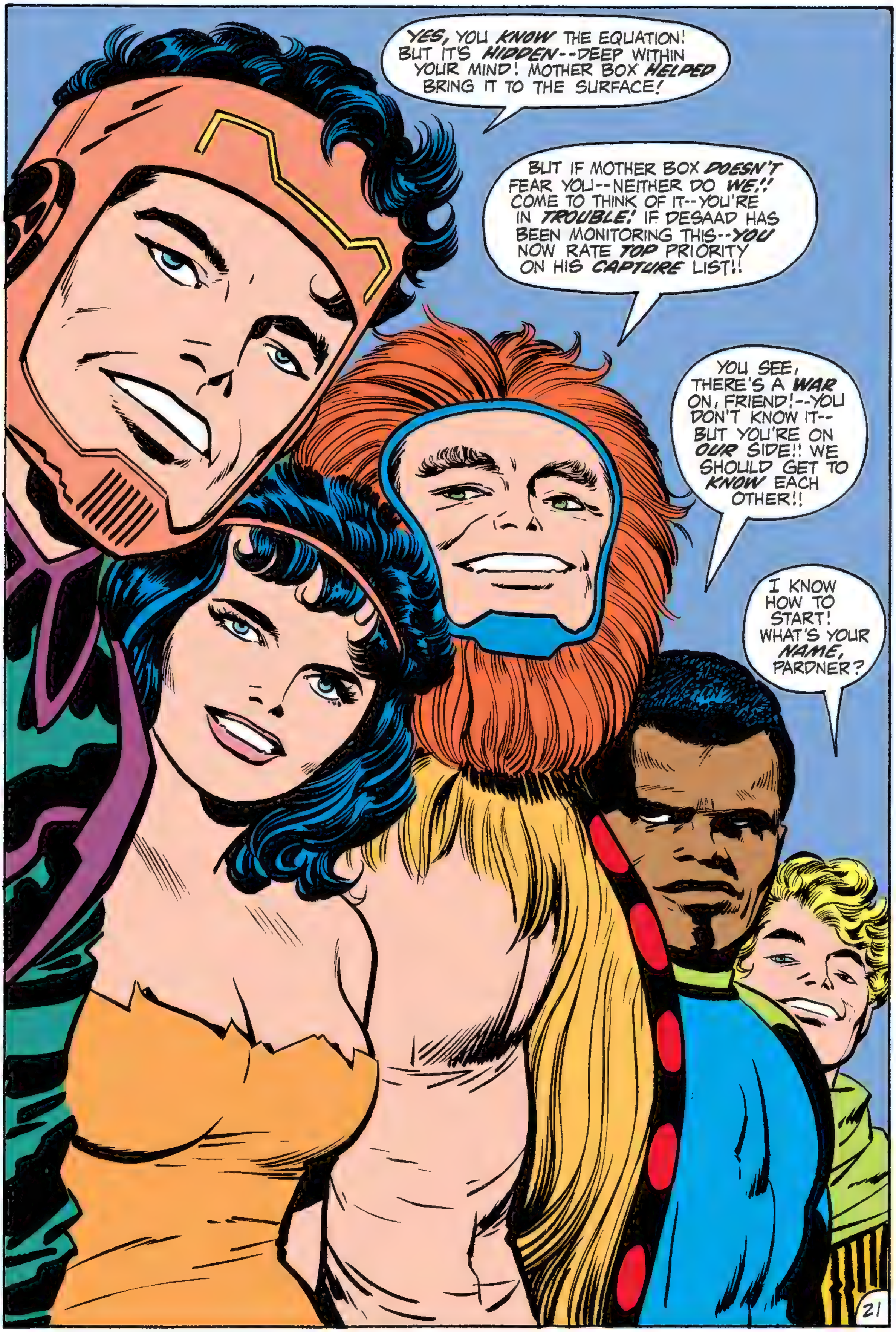
SLEEP!

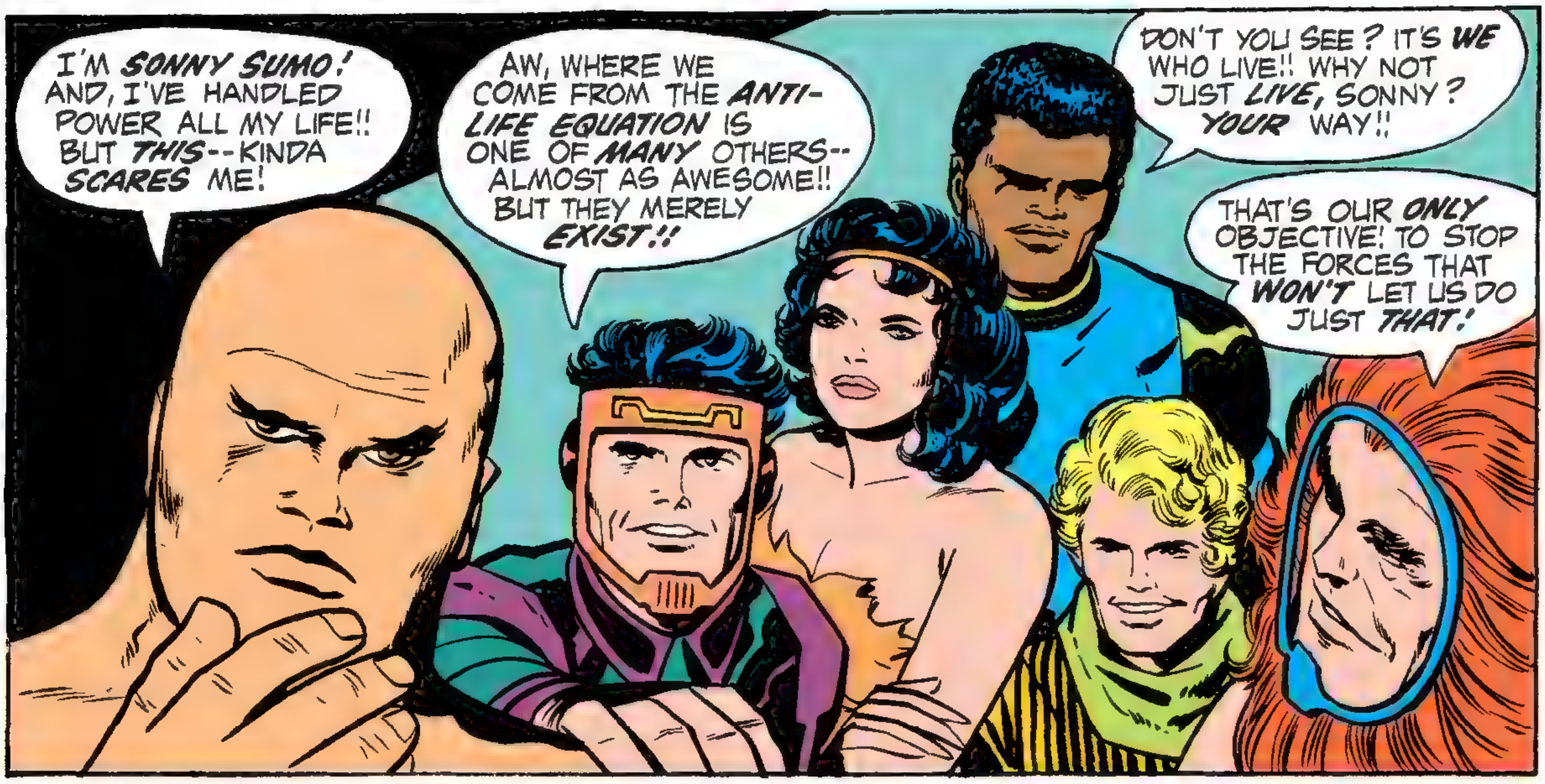
19

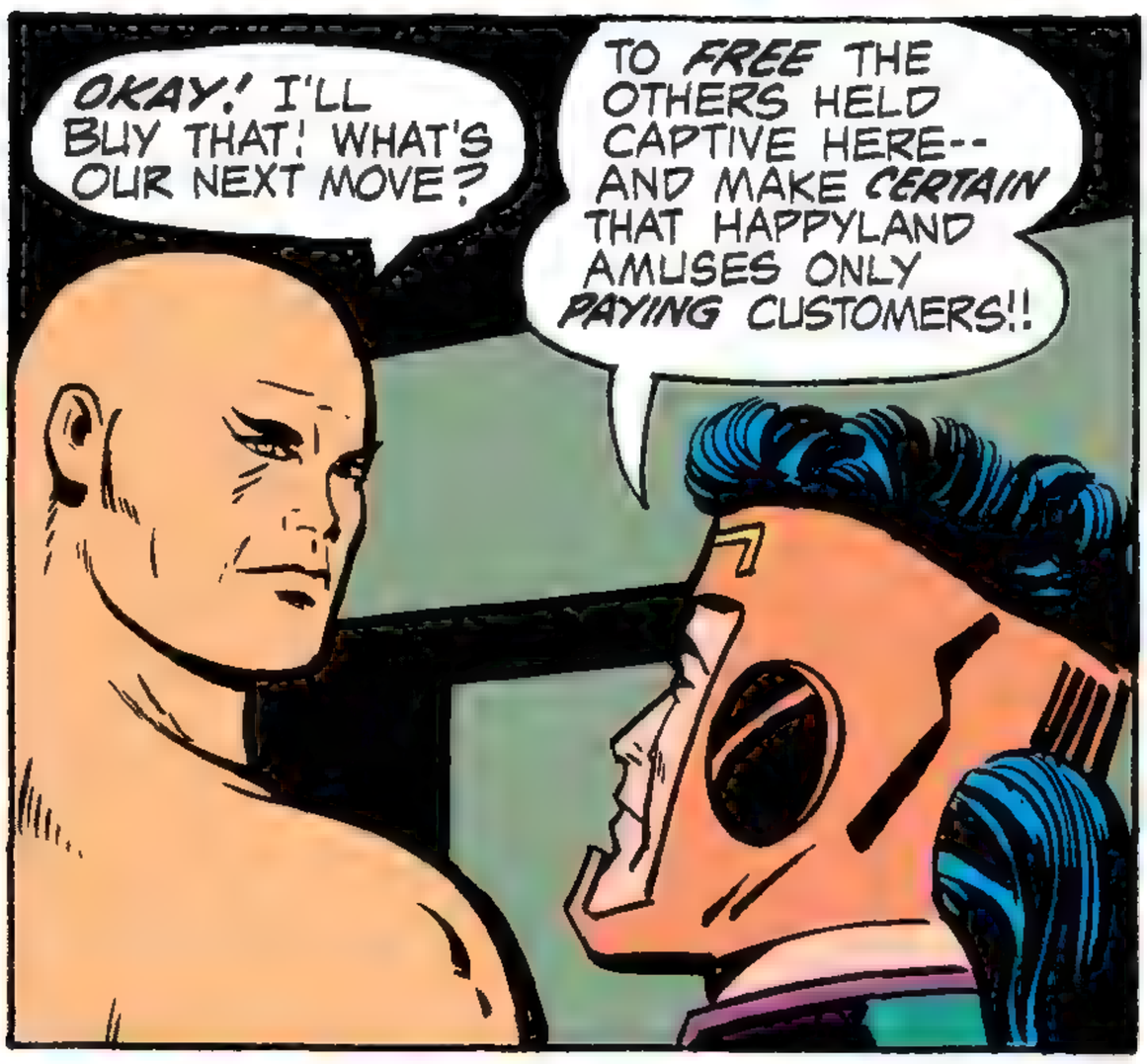
IN *EERIE*, TERRIBLE UNISON, THE KILLERS RESPOND WITH FRIGHTENING SWIFTNESS!! AS IF THAT ONE, LAST WORD HAD *TAKEN* THEIR WILL--AND *PULLED THEM DOWN!!*

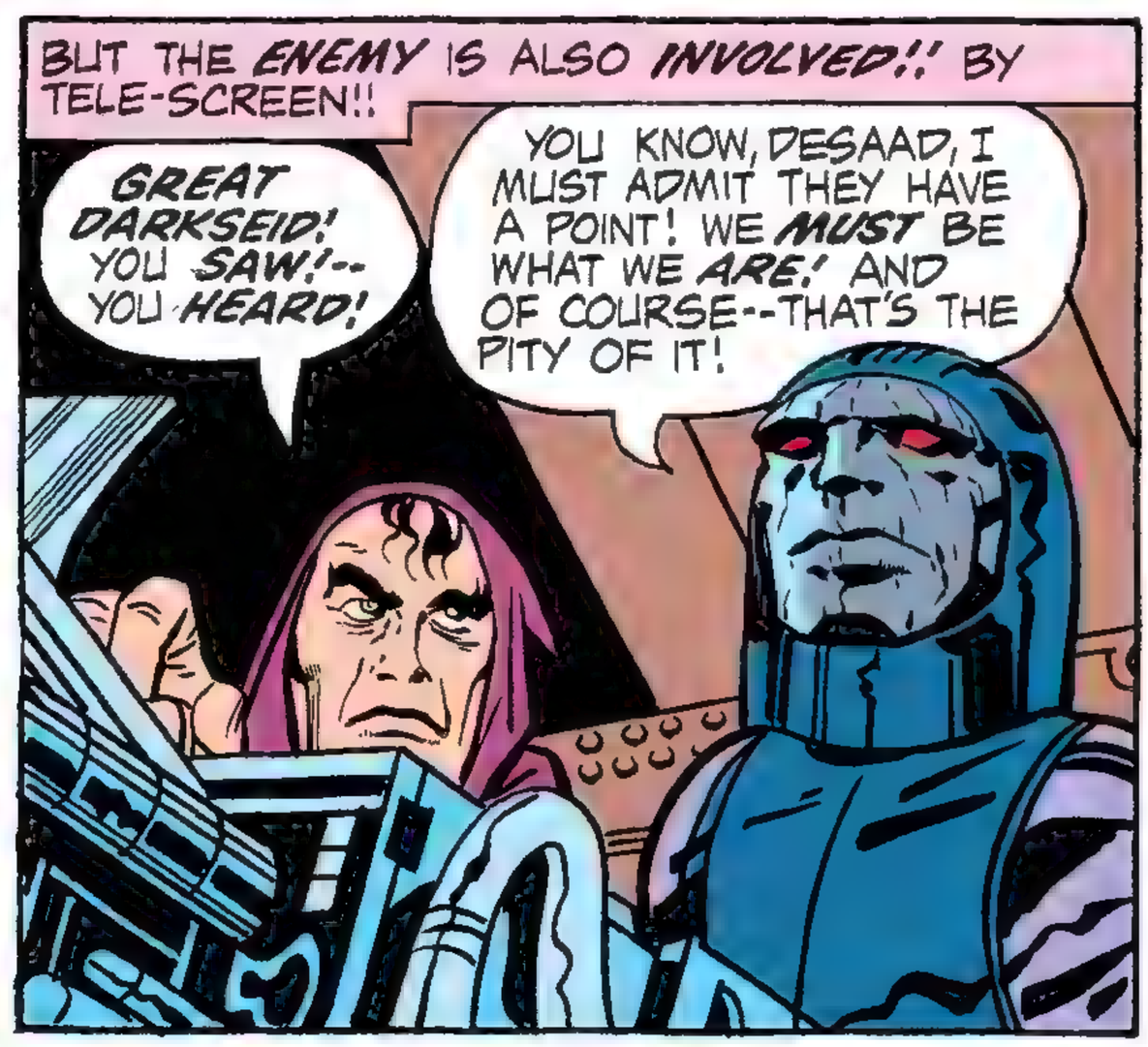
THE *OUTSIDE CONTROL* OF THE MIND!

AND WE'VE JUST SEEN IT *HAPPEN!* *HE HAS THE POWER!*

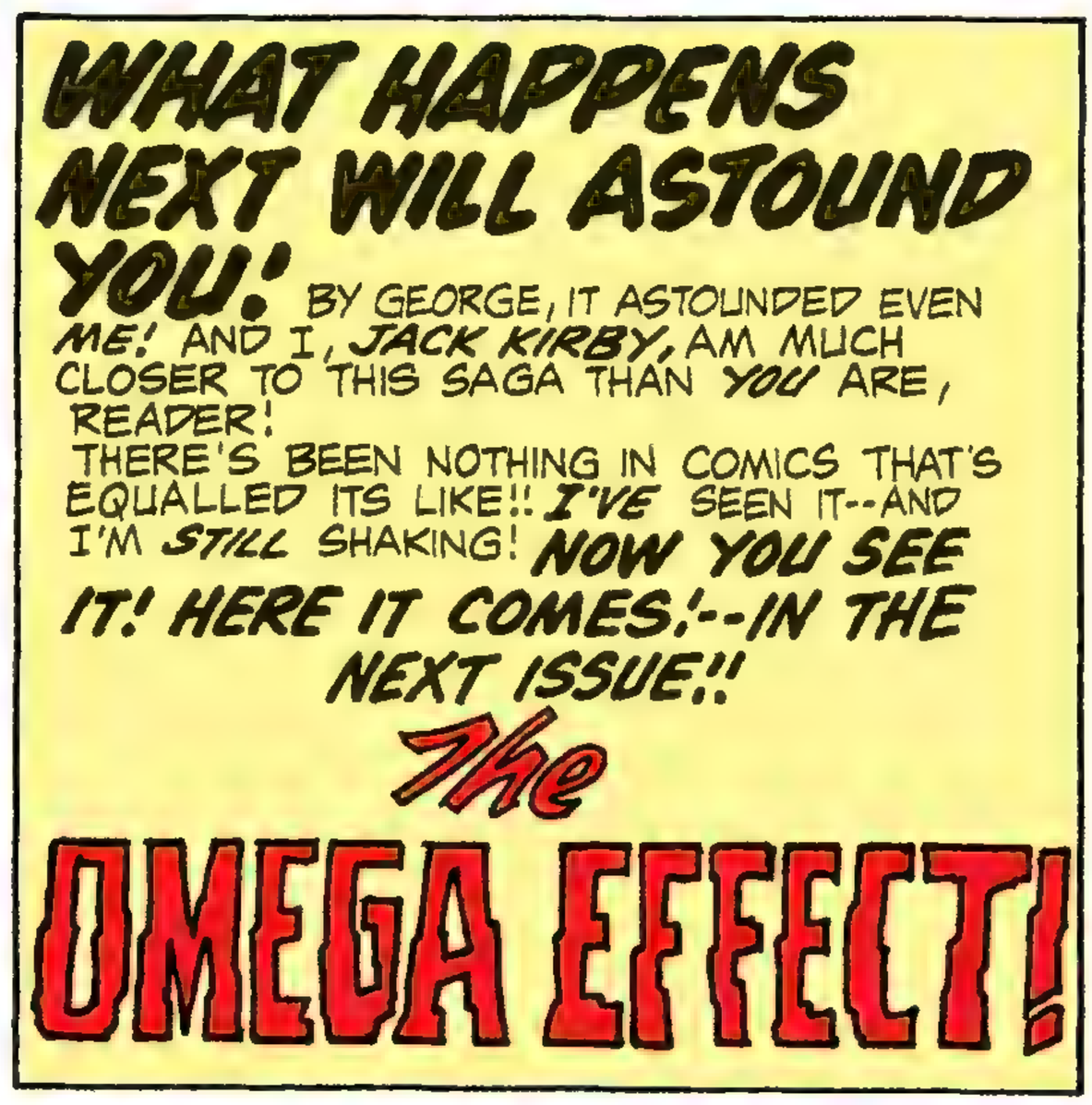

YES, YOU KNOW THE EQUATION! BUT IT'S HIDDEN--DEEP WITHIN YOUR MIND! MOTHER BOX HELPED BRING IT TO THE SURFACE!
BUT IF MOTHER BOX DOESN'T FEAR YOU--NEITHER DO WE!! COME TO THINK OF IT--YOU'RE IN TROUBLE! IF DESAAD HAS BEEN MONITORING THIS--YOU NOW RATE TOP PRIORITY ON HIS CAPTURE LIST!!
YOU SEE, THERE'S A WAR ON, FRIEND!--YOU DON'T KNOW IT--BUT YOU'RE ON OUR SIDE!! WE SHOULD GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER!!
I KNOW HOW TO START! WHAT'S YOUR NAME, PARDNER?
21

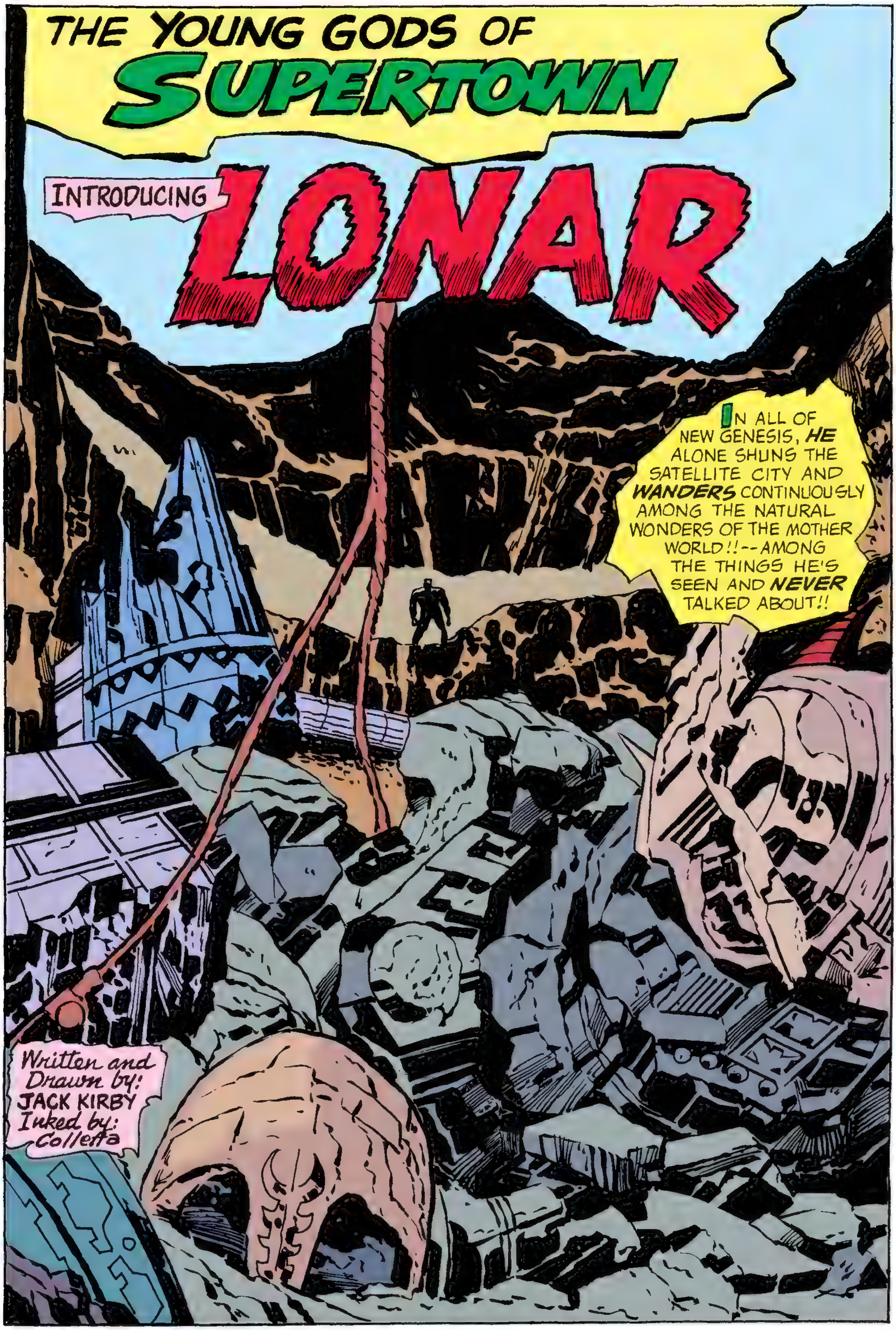

I'M SONNY SUMO! AND, I'VE HANDLED POWER ALL MY LIFE!! BUT THIS--KINDA SCARES ME!
AW, WHERE WE COME FROM THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION IS ONE OF MANY OTHERS-- ALMOST AS AWESOME!! BUT THEY MERELY EXIST!!
DON'T YOU SEE? IT'S WE WHO LIVE!! WHY NOT JUST LIVE, SONNY? YOUR WAY!!
THAT'S OUR ONLY OBJECTIVE! TO STOP THE FORCES THAT WON'T LET US DO JUST THAT!


OKAY! I'LL BUY THAT! WHAT'S OUR NEXT MOVE?
TO FREE THE OTHERS HELD CAPTIVE HERE-- AND MAKE CERTAIN THAT HAPPYLAND AMUSES ONLY PAYING CUSTOMERS!!


BUT THE ENEMY IS ALSO INVOLVED!! BY TELE-SCREEN!!
GREAT DARKSEID! YOU SAW!-- YOU HEARD!
YOU KNOW, DESAAD, I MUST ADMIT THEY HAVE A POINT! WE MUST BE WHAT WE ARE! AND OF COURSE--THAT'S THE PITY OF IT!

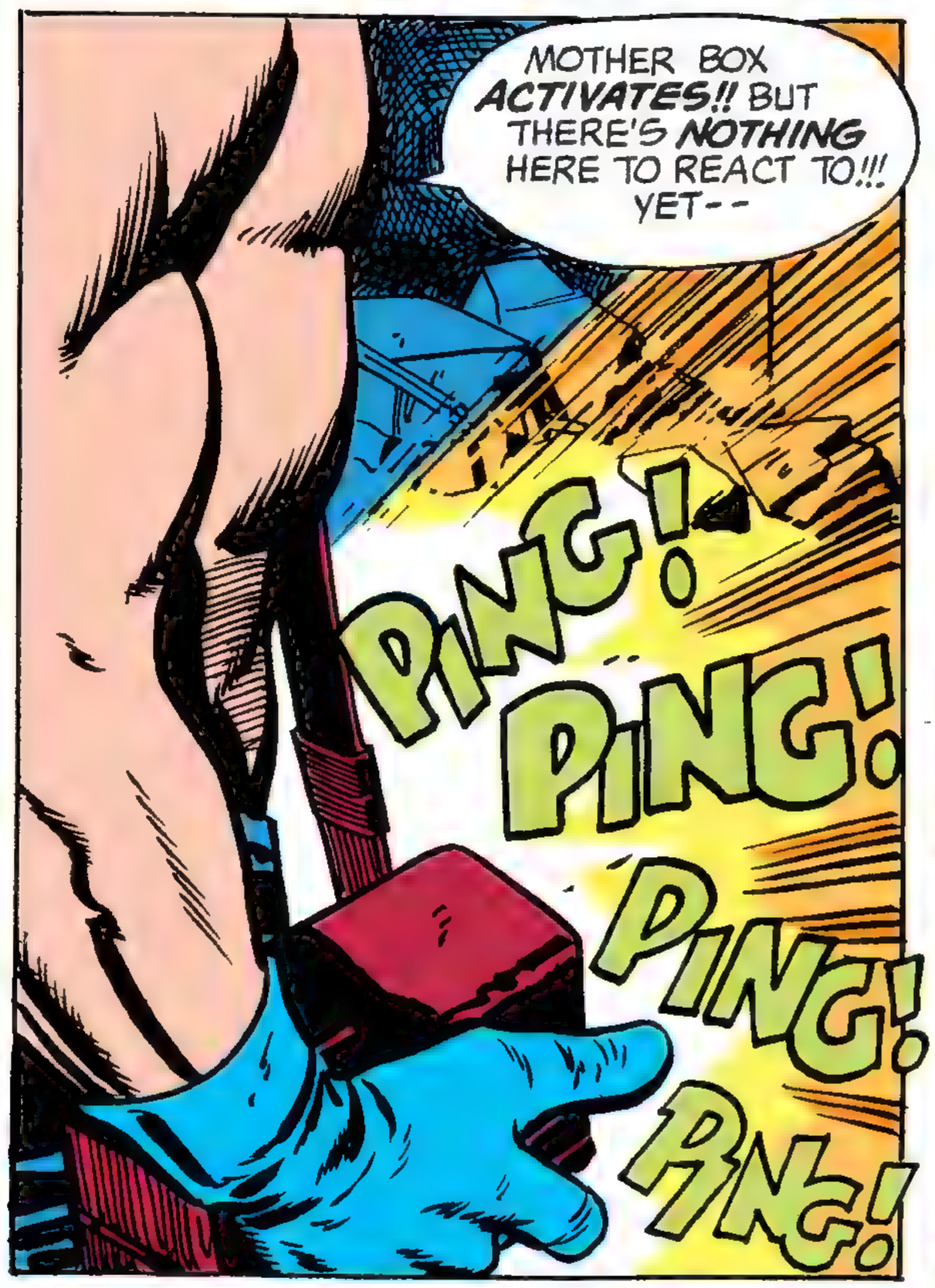
IT'S THE VERY CORE OF OUR CONFLICT! TO FULFILL OURSELVES-- WE MUST KILL THEM! KILL THEM! KILL THEM! KILL THEM! AND TAKE SUMO! I WANT THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!


WHAT HAPPENS NEXT WILL ASTOUND YOU! BY GEORGE, IT ASTOUNDED EVEN ME! AND I, JACK KIRBY, AM MUCH CLOSER TO THIS SAGA THAN YOU ARE, READER!
THERE'S BEEN NOTHING IN COMICS THAT'S EQUALLED ITS LIKE!! I'VE SEEN IT--AND I'M STILL SHAKING! NOW YOU SEE IT! HERE IT COMES!--IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!
The OMEGA EFFECT!


THE YOUNG GODS OF
SUPERTOWN
INTRODUCING
LONAR
IN ALL OF NEW GENESIS, HE ALONE SHUNS THE SATELLITE CITY AND WANDERS CONTINUOUSLY AMONG THE NATURAL WONDERS OF THE MOTHER WORLD!!--AMONG THE THINGS HE'S SEEN AND NEVER TALKED ABOUT!!
Written and Drawn by: JACK KIRBY
Inked by: Colletta

THERE'S NO RECORD ANYWHERE OF LONAR'S LATEST DISCOVERY!!--THE GLAZED PIT AND THE SHATTERED REMNANT OF A ONCE PROUD CITY!!--THE UNBELIEVABLE SURVIVAL OF A SMALL PLACE OF THE ELDER GODS!!

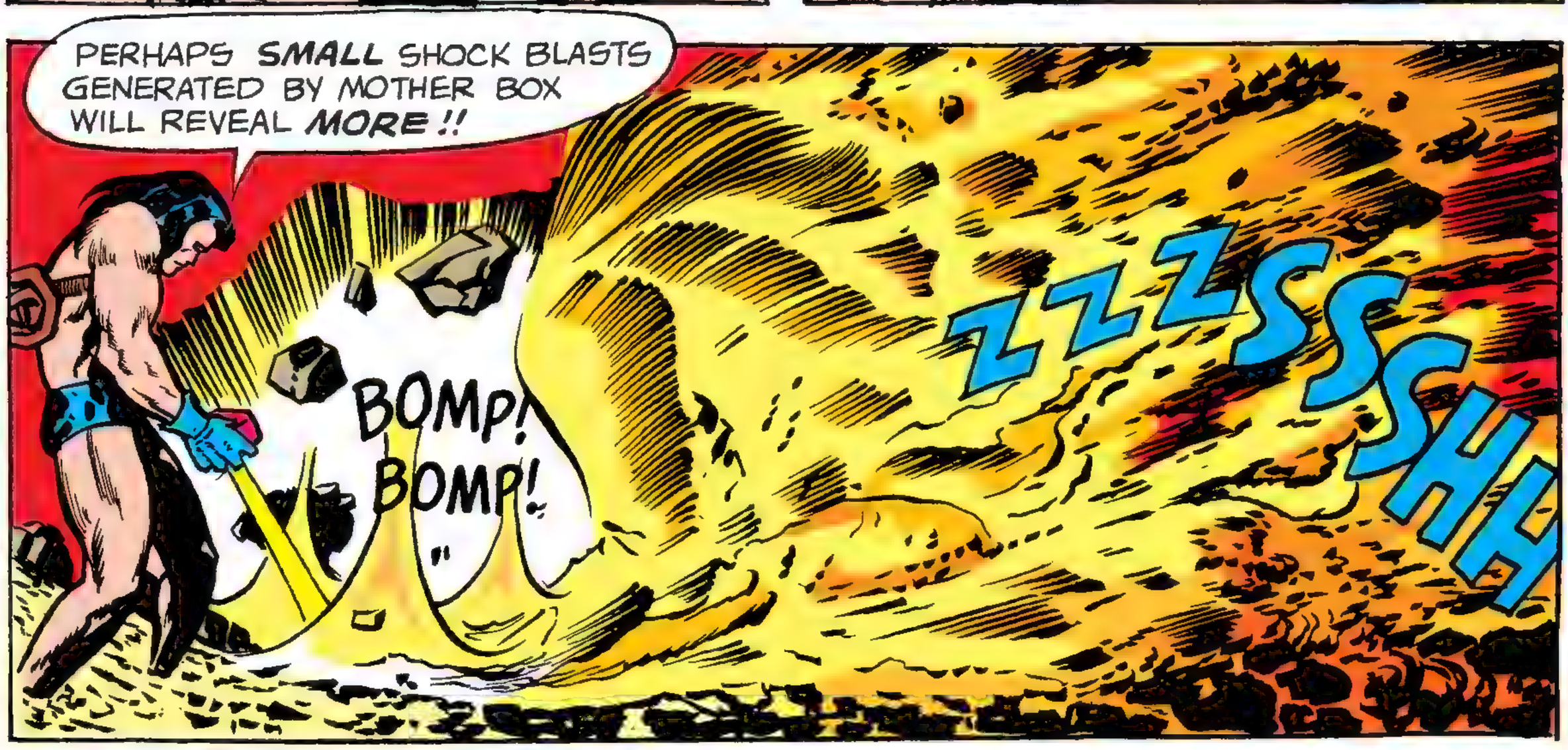
EVIDENCE OF A VIOLENT CULTURE BASE LIES EVERYWHERE!! LONAR EXAMINES ARTIFACTS LONG SHORN OF THEIR MIGHT AND MAGIC!!!
BORN AND BRED TO VIOLENCE! --THUS, THEY DIED!!!


MOTHER BOX ACTIVATES!! BUT THERE'S NOTHING HERE TO REACT TO!!! YET--
PING!
PING!
PING!
PING!

THIS MOUND OF ENCRUSTED ASH!!--IT SEEMS FORMED AROUND SOME CENTRAL OBJECT!!--
PING! PING!
PING
PING
2

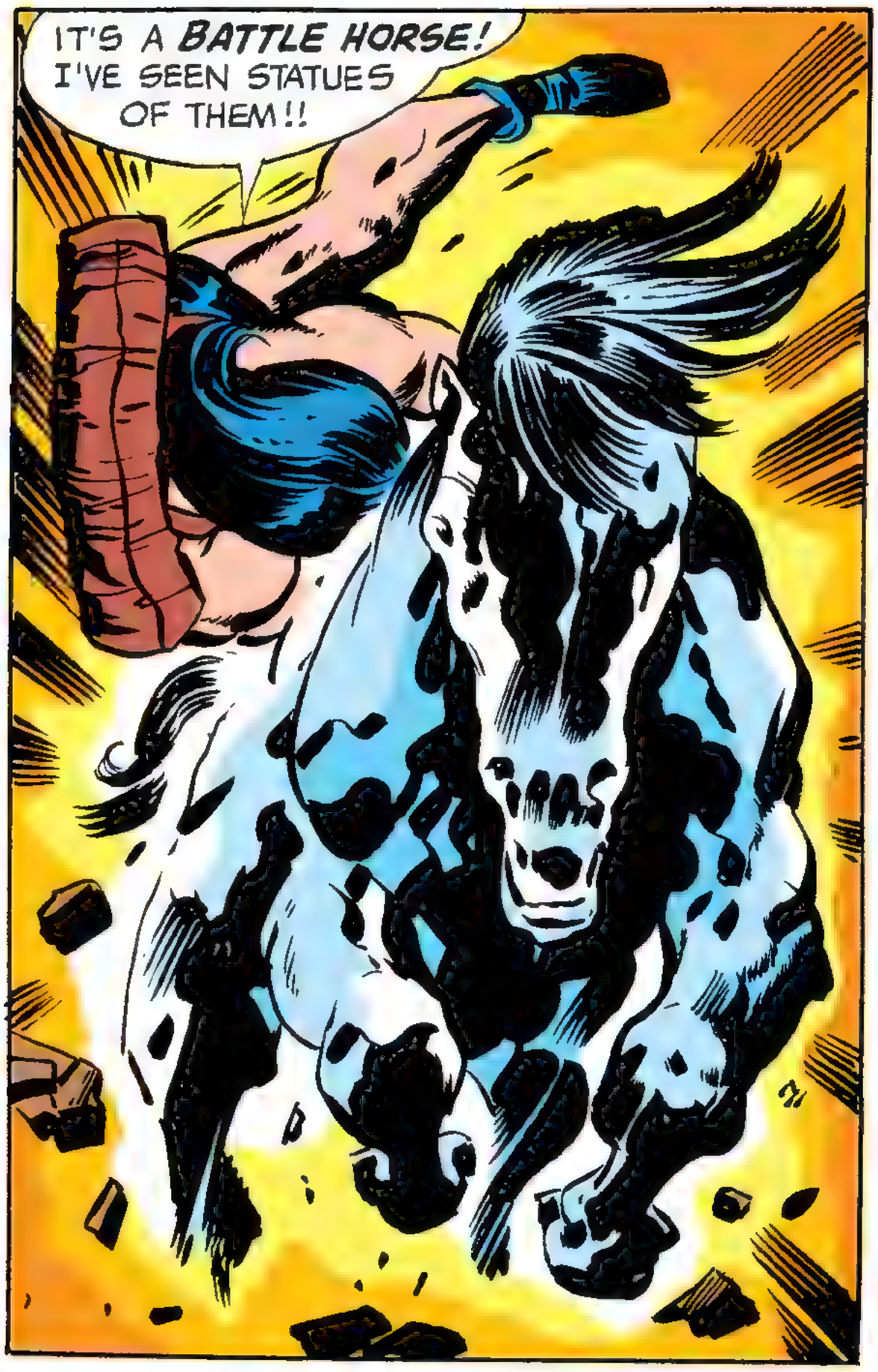
PING
PING
PING
THIS BEARS CLOSER EXAMINATION! CAN IT BE POSSIBLE THAT SOME SORT OF SHOCK COULD HAVE INDUCED A NATURAL CASE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION!!

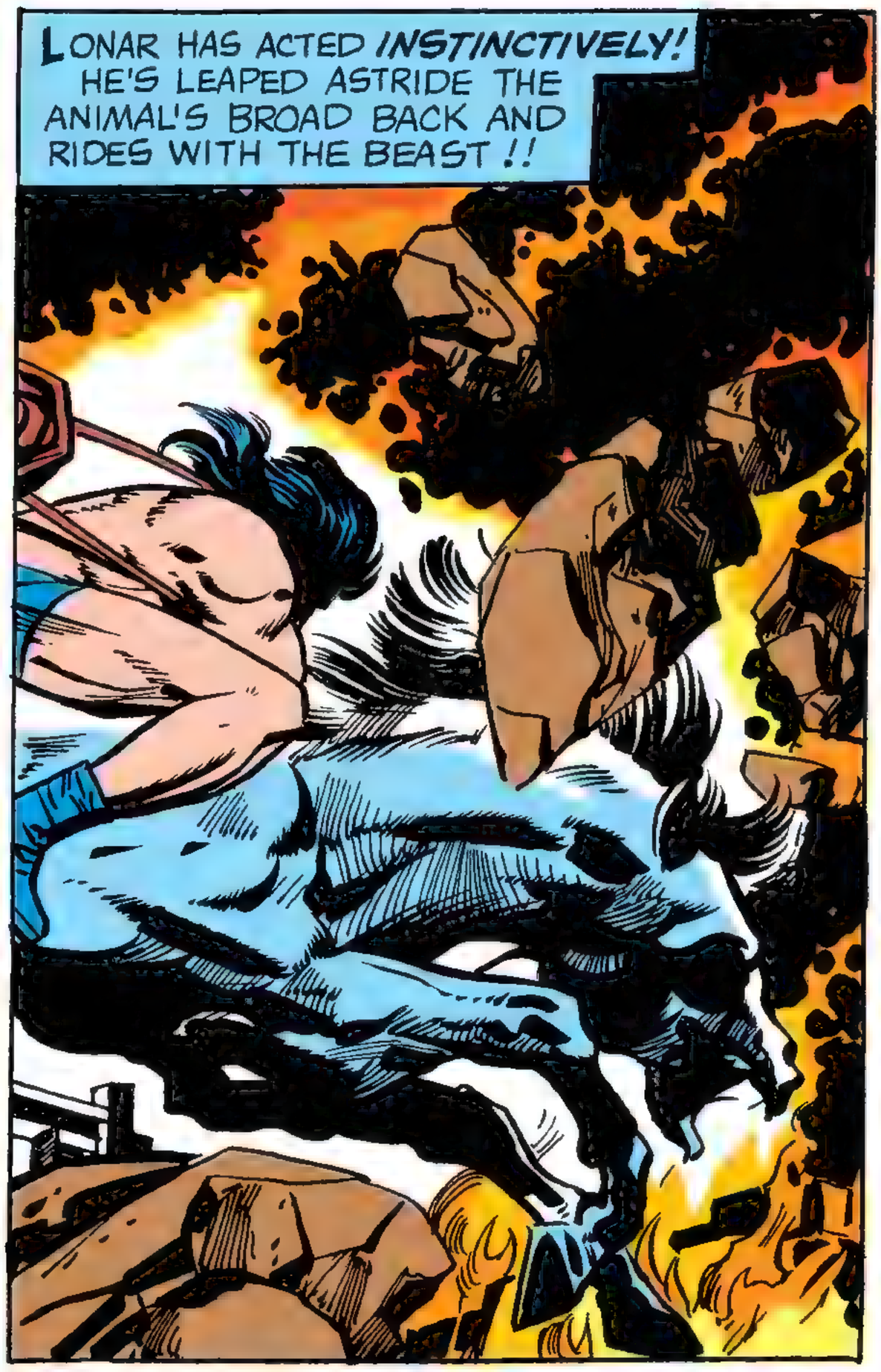
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT! SOMETHING HAS SURVIVED THAT ANCIENT HOLOCAUST!!
PING PING PING PING PING PING


PERHAPS SMALL SHOCK BLASTS GENERATED BY MOTHER BOX WILL REVEAL MORE!!
BOMP! BOMP!
ZZZSSSSH

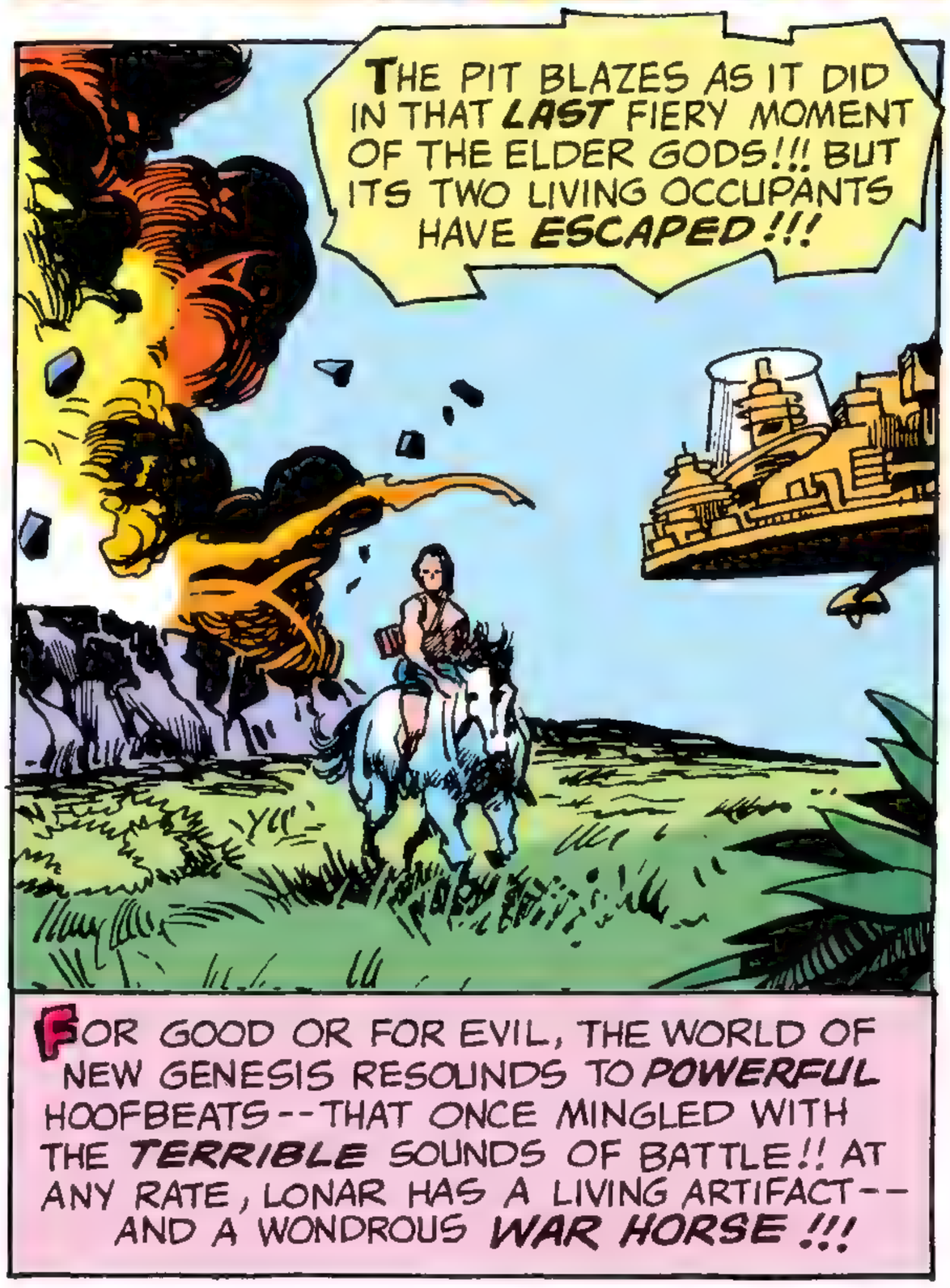
BUT THE SHOCKS SEEM TO SPARK GREATER ERUPTIONS IN THE DEAD CITY!

AND IN THE RUMBLE OF CONTINUING REACTION, THE UNEARTHED SURVIVOR JOLTS INTO LIFE!!
3

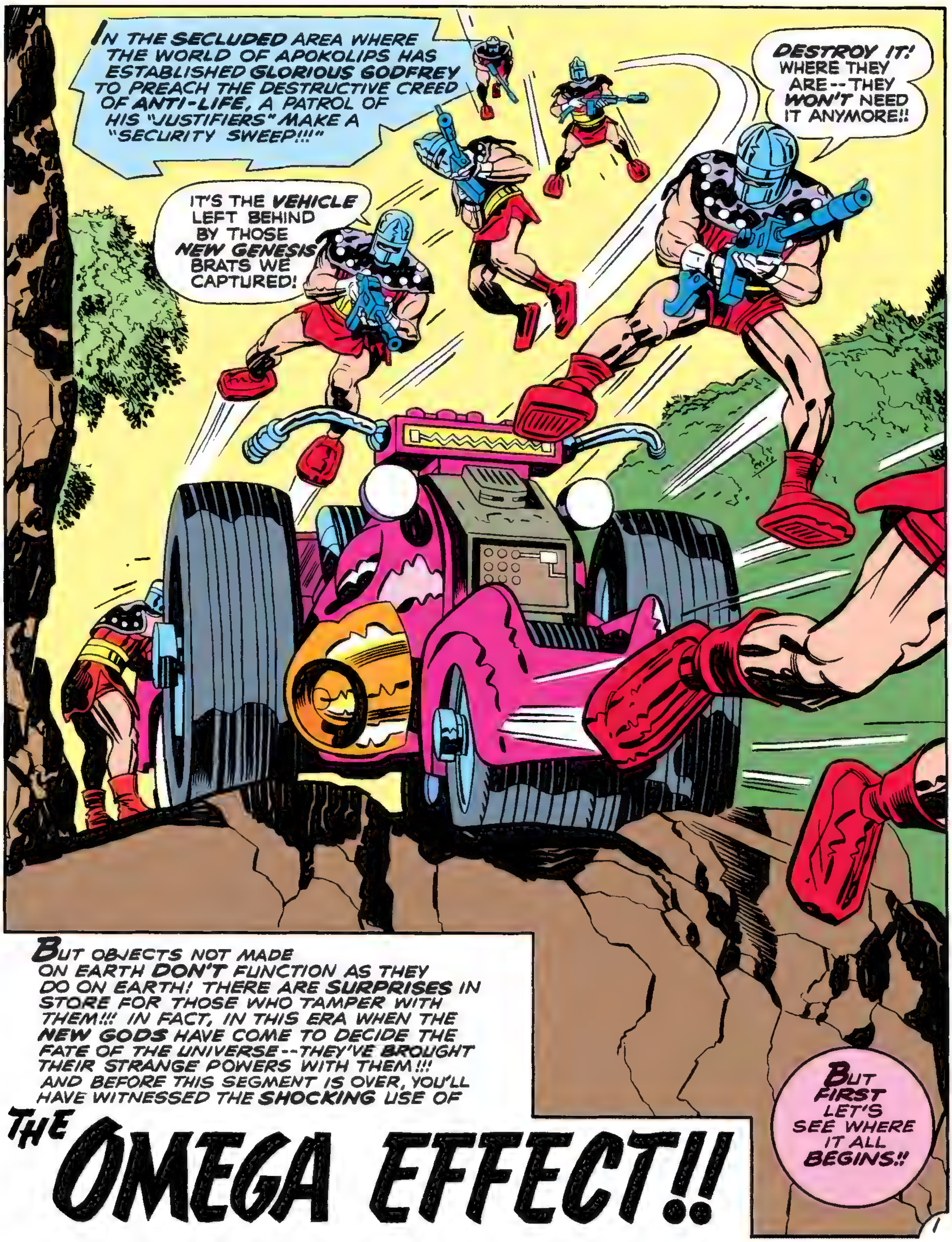

IT'S A BATTLE HORSE! I'VE SEEN STATUES OF THEM!!


LONAR HAS ACTED INSTINCTIVELY! HE'S LEAPED ASTRIDE THE ANIMAL'S BROAD BACK AND RIDES WITH THE BEAST!!

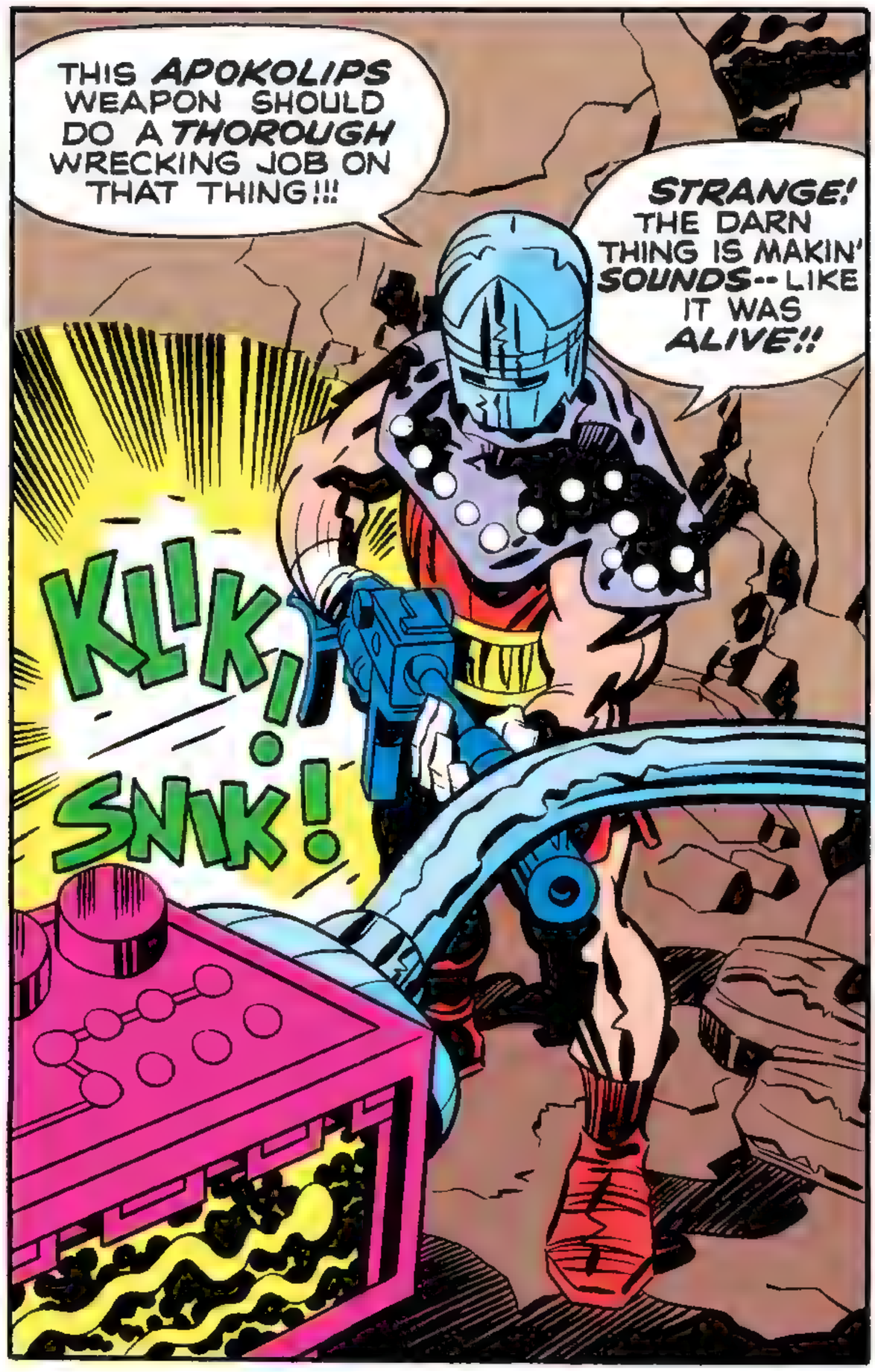
MEANWHILE ANCIENT FIRES HAVE BEEN REKINDLED!—AND WHAT'S LEFT OF THE CITY DIES ONCE AGAIN!!!


THE PIT BLAZES AS IT DID IN THAT LAST FIERY MOMENT OF THE ELDER GODS!!! BUT ITS TWO LIVING OCCUPANTS HAVE ESCAPED!!!
FOR GOOD OR FOR EVIL, THE WORLD OF NEW GENESIS RESOUNDS TO POWERFUL HOOFBEATS--THAT ONCE MINGLED WITH THE TERRIBLE SOUNDS OF BATTLE!! AT ANY RATE, LONAR HAS A LIVING ARTIFACT--AND A WONDROUS WAR HORSE!!!

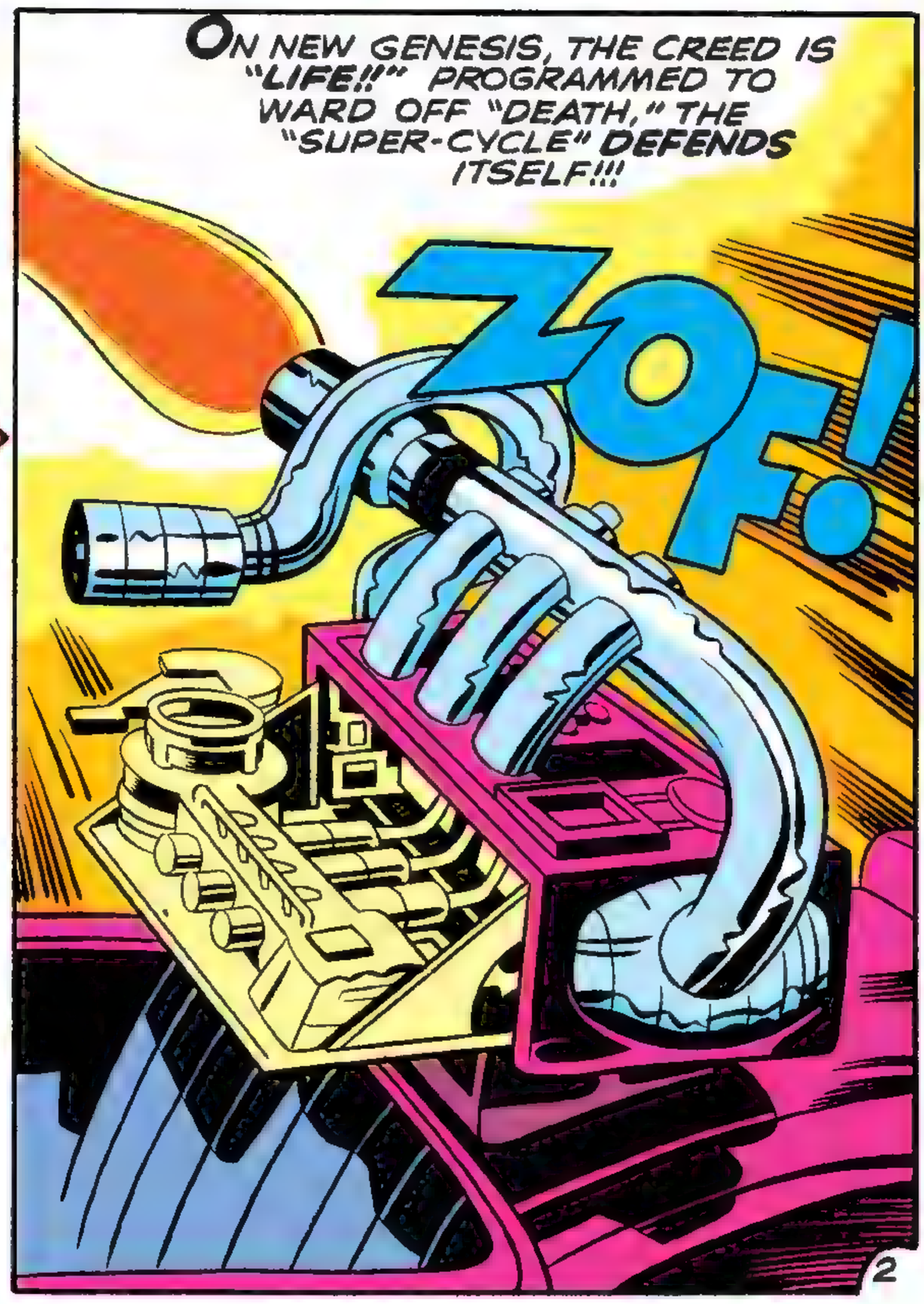
SEE IT--TO BELIEVE IT!
The OMEGA EFFECT!
48 pages
DC THE FOREVER PEOPLE
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 6
JAN.
30490
IT WIPES YOU OUT OF EXISTENCE!
EXTRA!
The SANDMAN and SANDY MEET "The VILLAIN from VALHALLA"


IN THE SECLUDED AREA WHERE THE WORLD OF APOKOLIPS HAS ESTABLISHED GLORIOUS GODFREY TO PREACH THE DESTRUCTIVE CREED OF ANTI-LIFE, A PATROL OF HIS "JUSTIFIERS" MAKE A "SECURITY SWEEP!!!"
DESTROY IT! WHERE THEY ARE--THEY WON'T NEED IT ANYMORE!!
IT'S THE VEHICLE LEFT BEHIND BY THOSE NEW GENESIS BRATS WE CAPTURED!
BUT OBJECTS NOT MADE ON EARTH DON'T FUNCTION AS THEY DO ON EARTH! THERE ARE SURPRISES IN STORE FOR THOSE WHO TAMPER WITH THEM!!! IN FACT, IN THIS ERA WHEN THE NEW GODS HAVE COME TO DECIDE THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE--THEY'VE BROUGHT THEIR STRANGE POWERS WITH THEM!!! AND BEFORE THIS SEGMENT IS OVER, YOU'LL HAVE WITNESSED THE SHOCKING USE OF
THE OMEGA EFFECT!!
BUT FIRST LET'S SEE WHERE IT ALL BEGINS!!

TURN DOWN THE NOISE OF YOUR "FLIGHT-SHOES!" GLORIOUS GODFREY IS STILL RECEIVING RECRUITS IN HIS GREAT TENT!
HUH! I GET ALL THE RIDICULOUS CHORES!!


THIS APOKOLIPS WEAPON SHOULD DO A THOROUGH WRECKING JOB ON THAT THING!!!
STRANGE! THE DARN THING IS MAKIN' SOUNDS-- LIKE IT WAS ALIVE!!
KLIK!
SNIK!

WHA-?! IT'S MOVING!!-- CHANGING!!-THE HANDLE-BARS-- THE CABS-- THE WHEELS--
ZZZZIKK!


ON NEW GENESIS, THE CREED IS "LIFE!!" PROGRAMMED TO WARD OFF "DEATH," THE "SUPER-CYCLE" DEFENDS ITSELF!!!
ZOF!
2

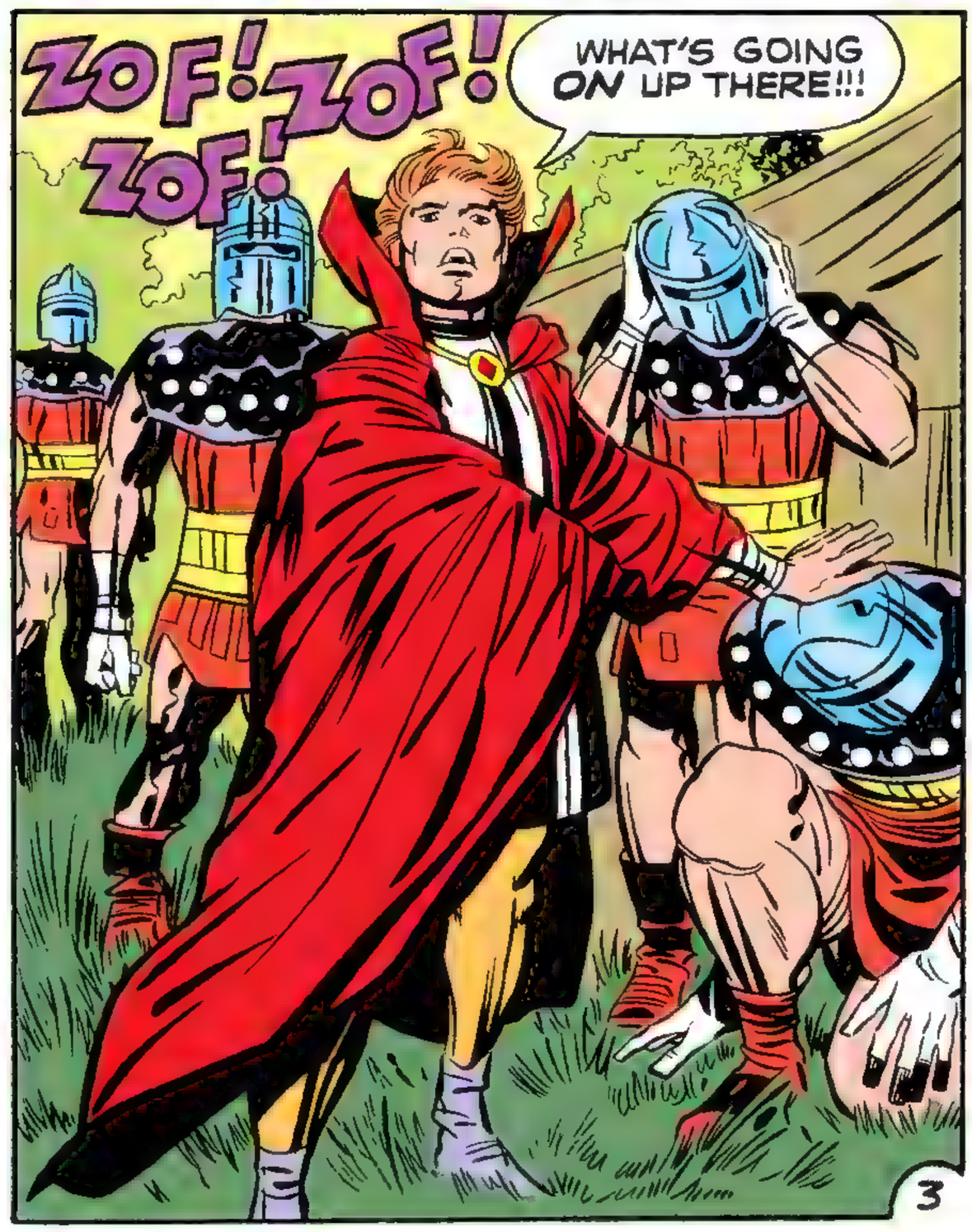
HAVING PARALYZED ITS ATTACKER, THE SUPER-CYCLE CONTINUES ITS RE-ARRANGEMENT!! FOR ALL PURPOSES IT'S NOW AN IMPREGNABLE FORT!! -- WAITING FOR THE RETURN OF ITS YOUNG "FRIENDS!!"

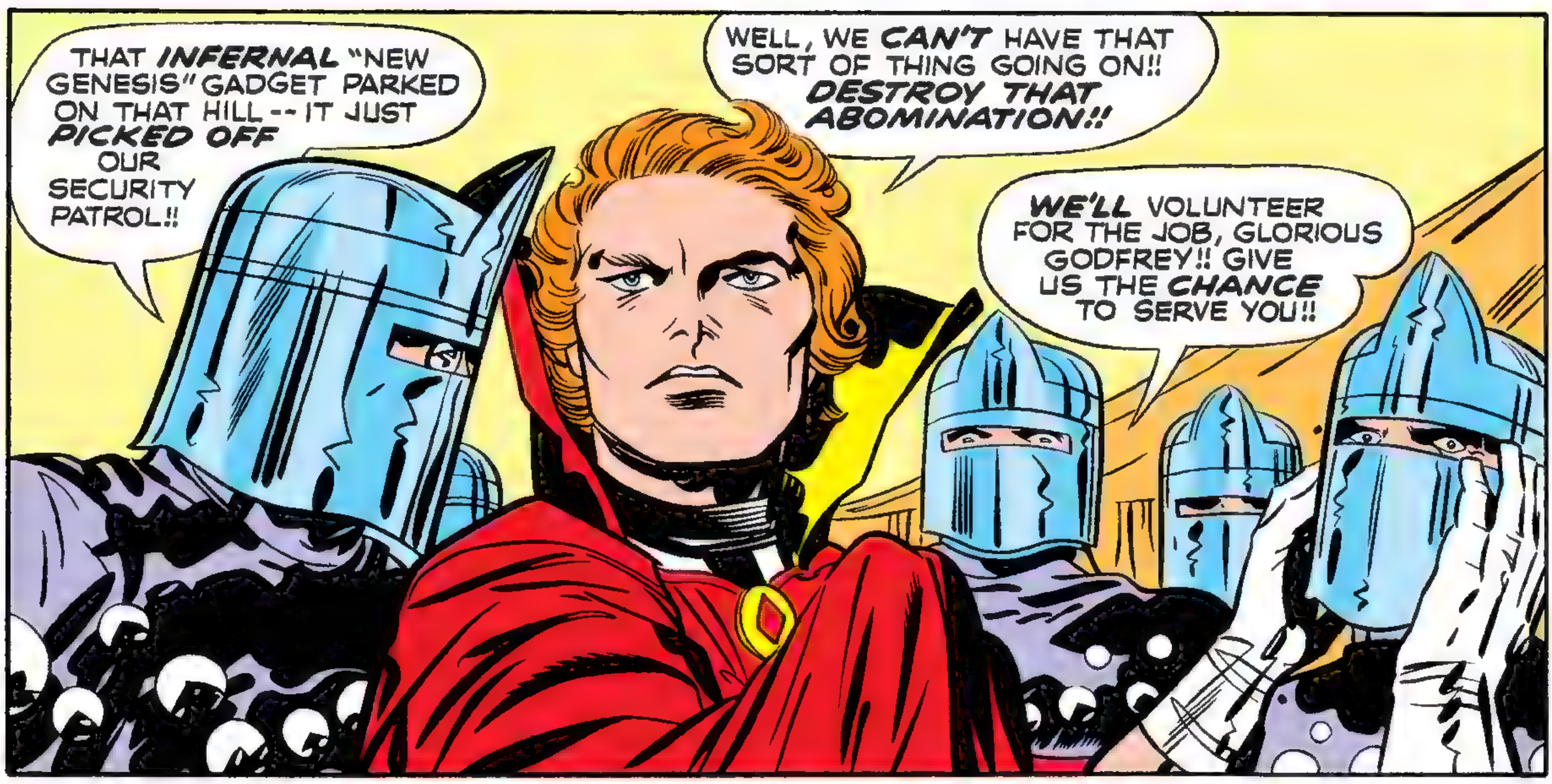
KLAK!

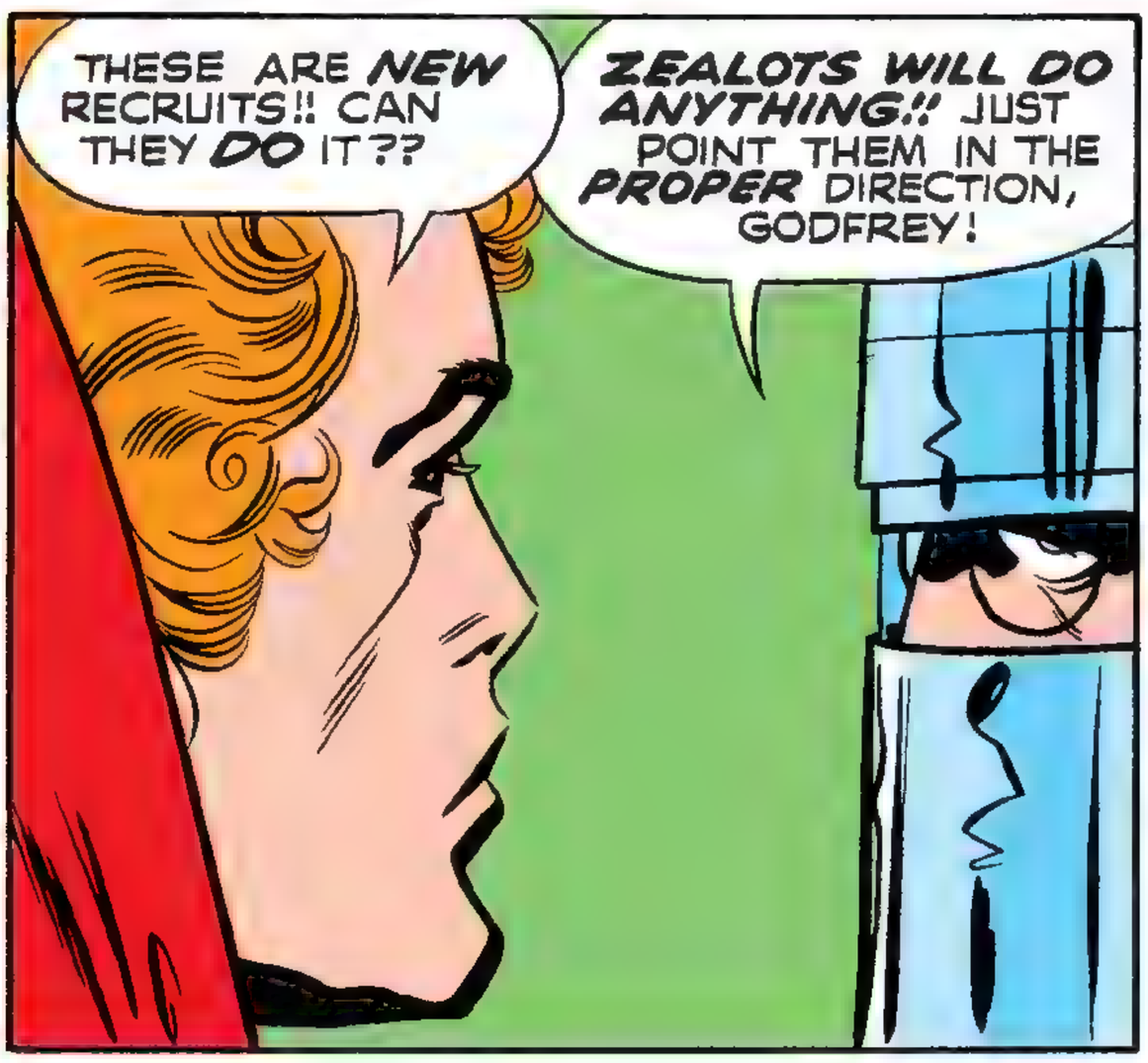
ZZZLLK!

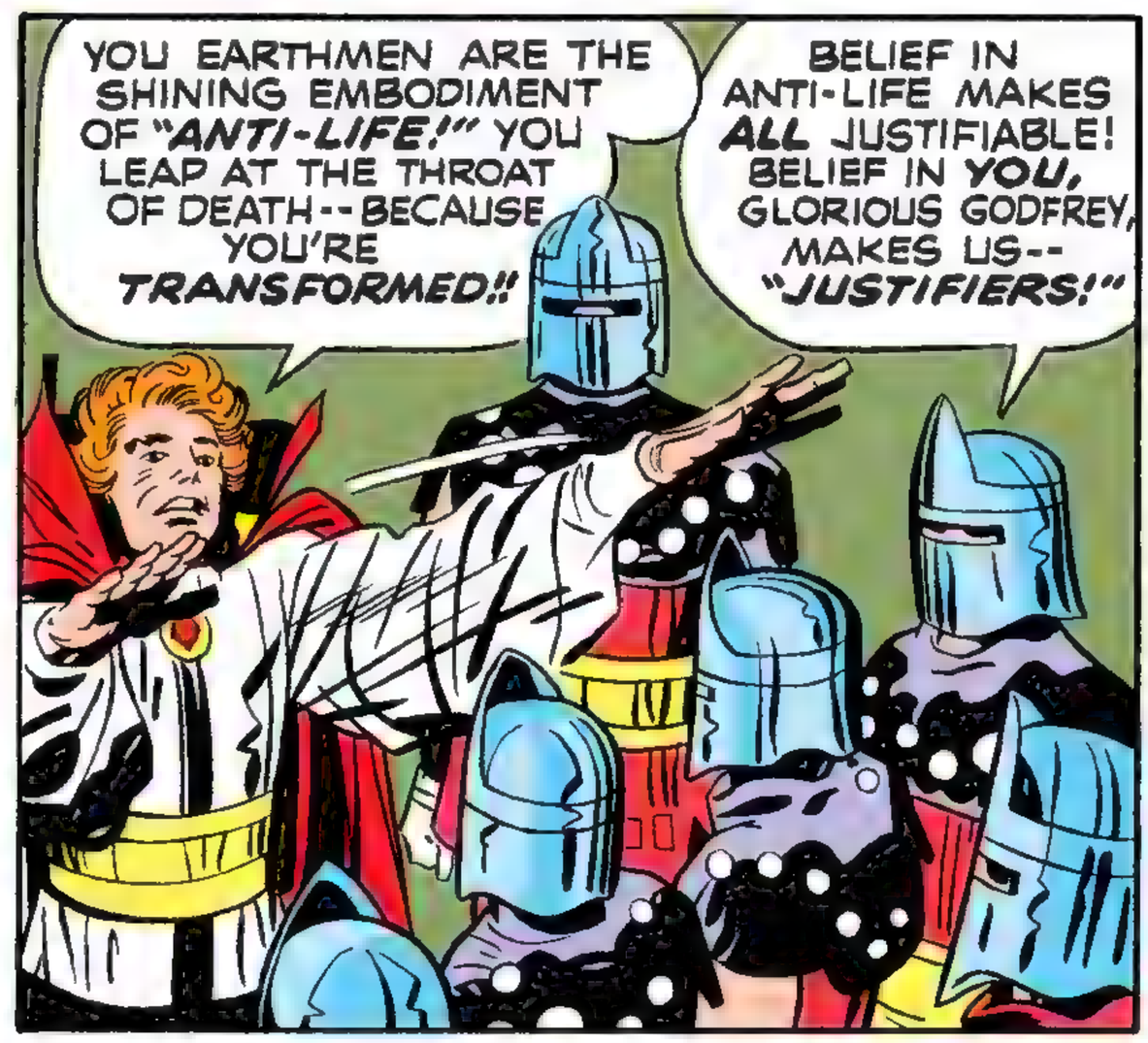
SSSSSKEEE!

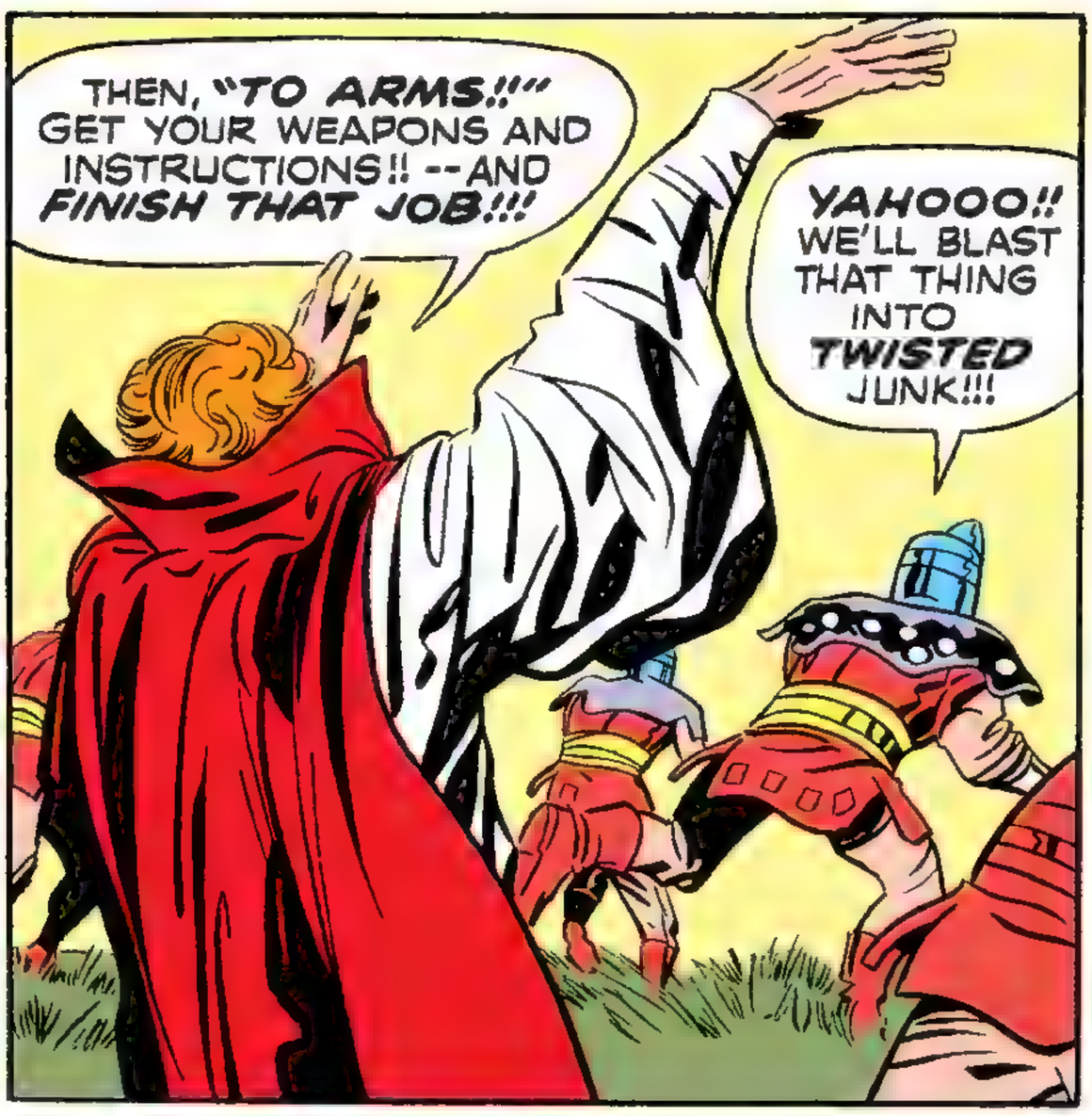
THEN --- MORE SHOTS -- MORE STIFFENED, FALLING FIGURES!!! ALL IN FULL VIEW OF GLORIOUS GODFREY DOWN BELOW!!!

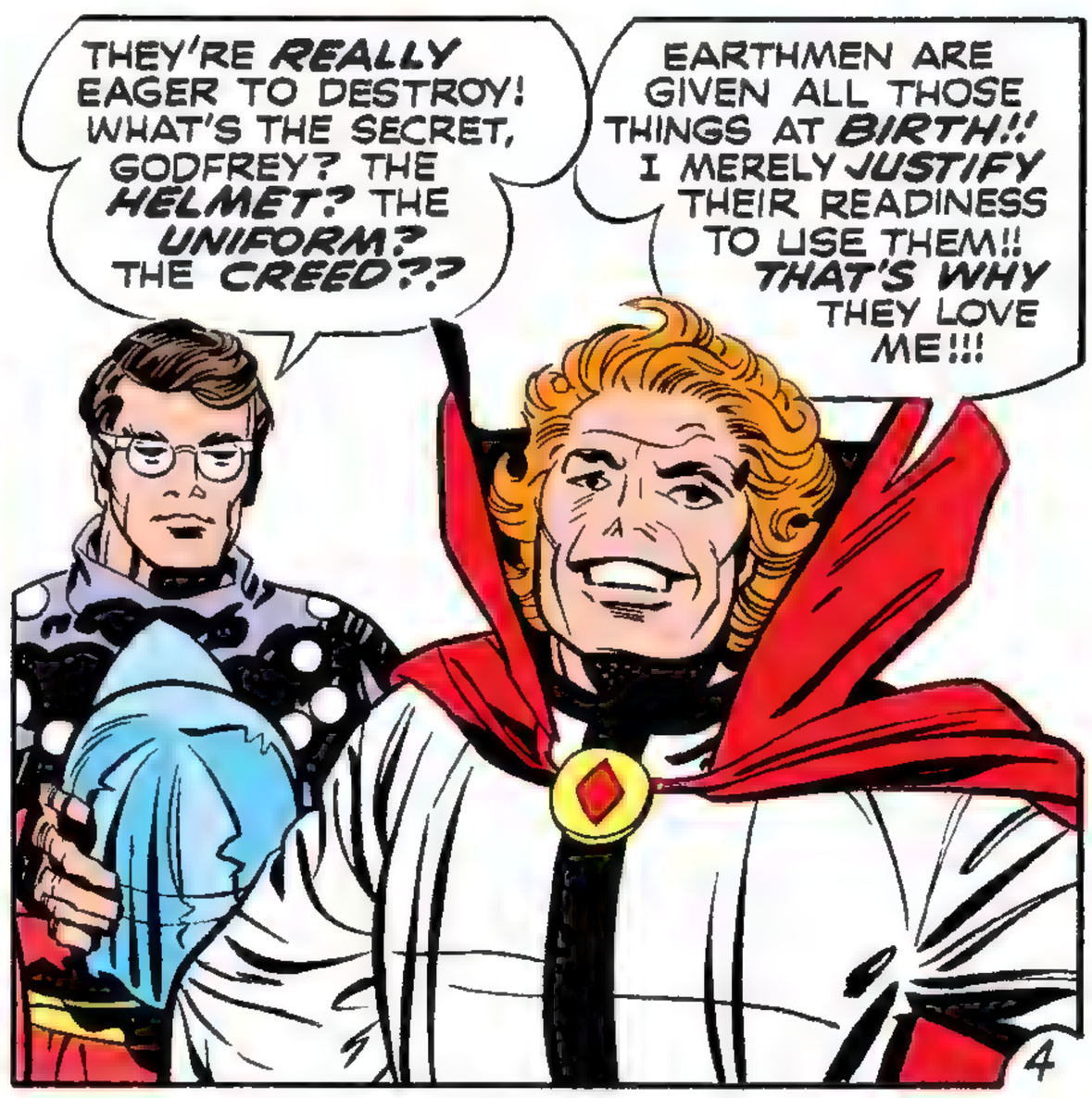


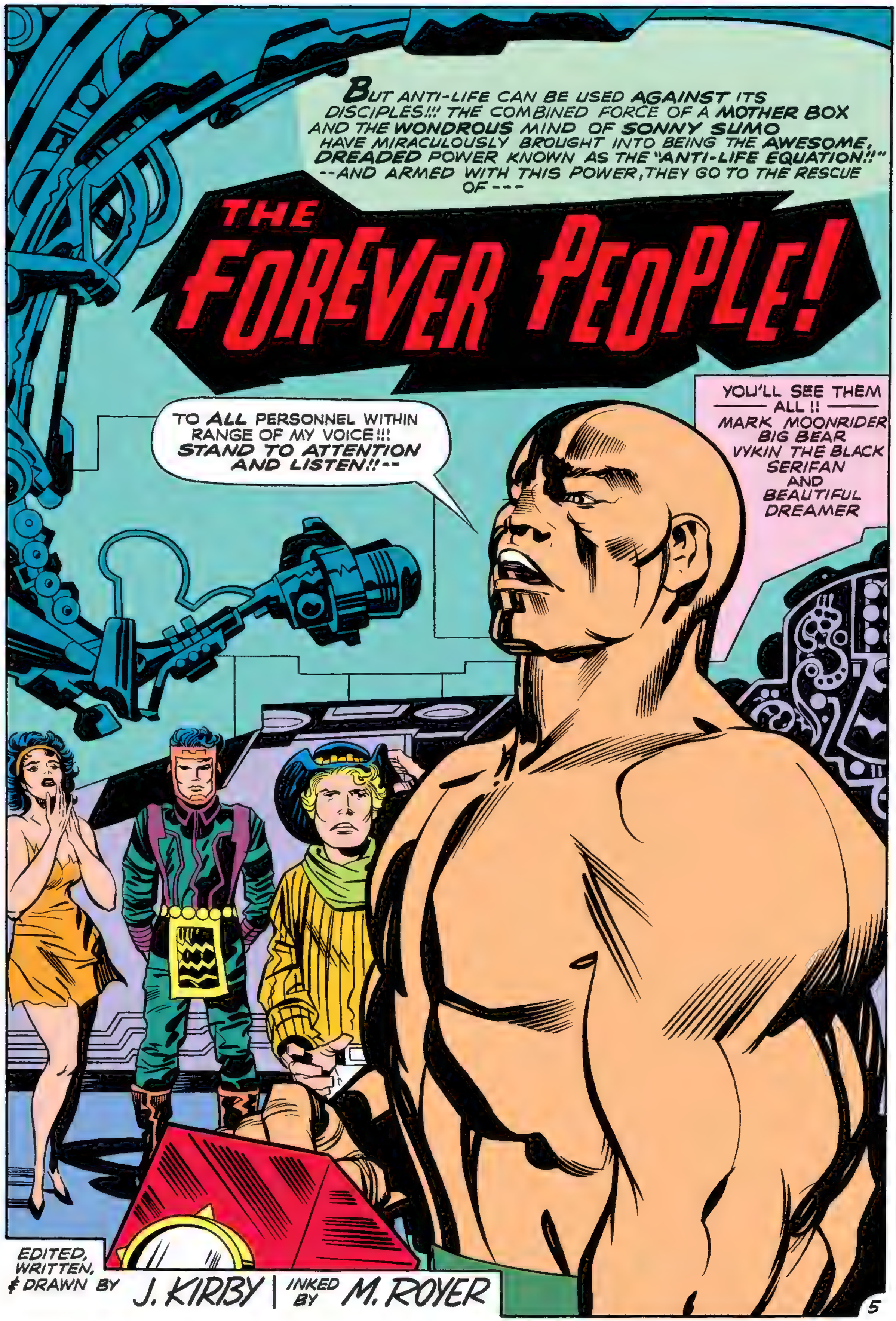

THAT INFERNAL "NEW GENESIS" GADGET PARKED ON THAT HILL -- IT JUST PICKED OFF OUR SECURITY PATROL!!
WELL, WE CAN'T HAVE THAT SORT OF THING GOING ON!! DESTROY THAT ABOMINATION!!
WE'LL VOLUNTEER FOR THE JOB, GLORIOUS GODFREY!! GIVE US THE CHANCE TO SERVE YOU!!


THESE ARE NEW RECRUITS!! CAN THEY DO IT??
ZEALOTS WILL DO ANYTHING!! JUST POINT THEM IN THE PROPER DIRECTION, GODFREY!


YOU EARTHMEN ARE THE SHINING EMBODIMENT OF "ANTI-LIFE!" YOU LEAP AT THE THROAT OF DEATH -- BECAUSE YOU'RE TRANSFORMED!!
BELIEF IN ANTI-LIFE MAKES ALL JUSTIFIABLE! BELIEF IN YOU, GLORIOUS GODFREY, MAKES US -- "JUSTIFIERS!"


THEN, "TO ARMS!!" GET YOUR WEAPONS AND INSTRUCTIONS!! -- AND FINISH THAT JOB!!!
YAHOOO!! WE'LL BLAST THAT THING INTO TWISTED JUNK!!!


THEY'RE REALLY EAGER TO DESTROY! WHAT'S THE SECRET, GODFREY? THE HELMET? THE UNIFORM? THE CREED??
EARTHMEN ARE GIVEN ALL THOSE THINGS AT BIRTH!! I MERELY JUSTIFY THEIR READINESS TO USE THEM!! THAT'S WHY THEY LOVE ME!!!
4


BUT ANTI-LIFE CAN BE USED AGAINST ITS DISCIPLES!!! THE COMBINED FORCE OF A MOTHER BOX AND THE WONDROUS MIND OF SONNY SUMO HAVE MIRACULOUSLY BROUGHT INTO BEING THE AWESOME, DREADED POWER KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!!" --AND ARMED WITH THIS POWER, THEY GO TO THE RESCUE OF---
THE FOREVER PEOPLE!
TO ALL PERSONNEL WITHIN RANGE OF MY VOICE!!! STAND TO ATTENTION AND LISTEN!!--
YOU'LL SEE THEM ALL!! MARK MOONRIDER BIG BEAR VYKIN THE BLACK SERIFAN AND BEAUTIFUL DREAMER
EDITED, WRITTEN, & DRAWN BY J. KIRBY | INKED BY M. ROYER
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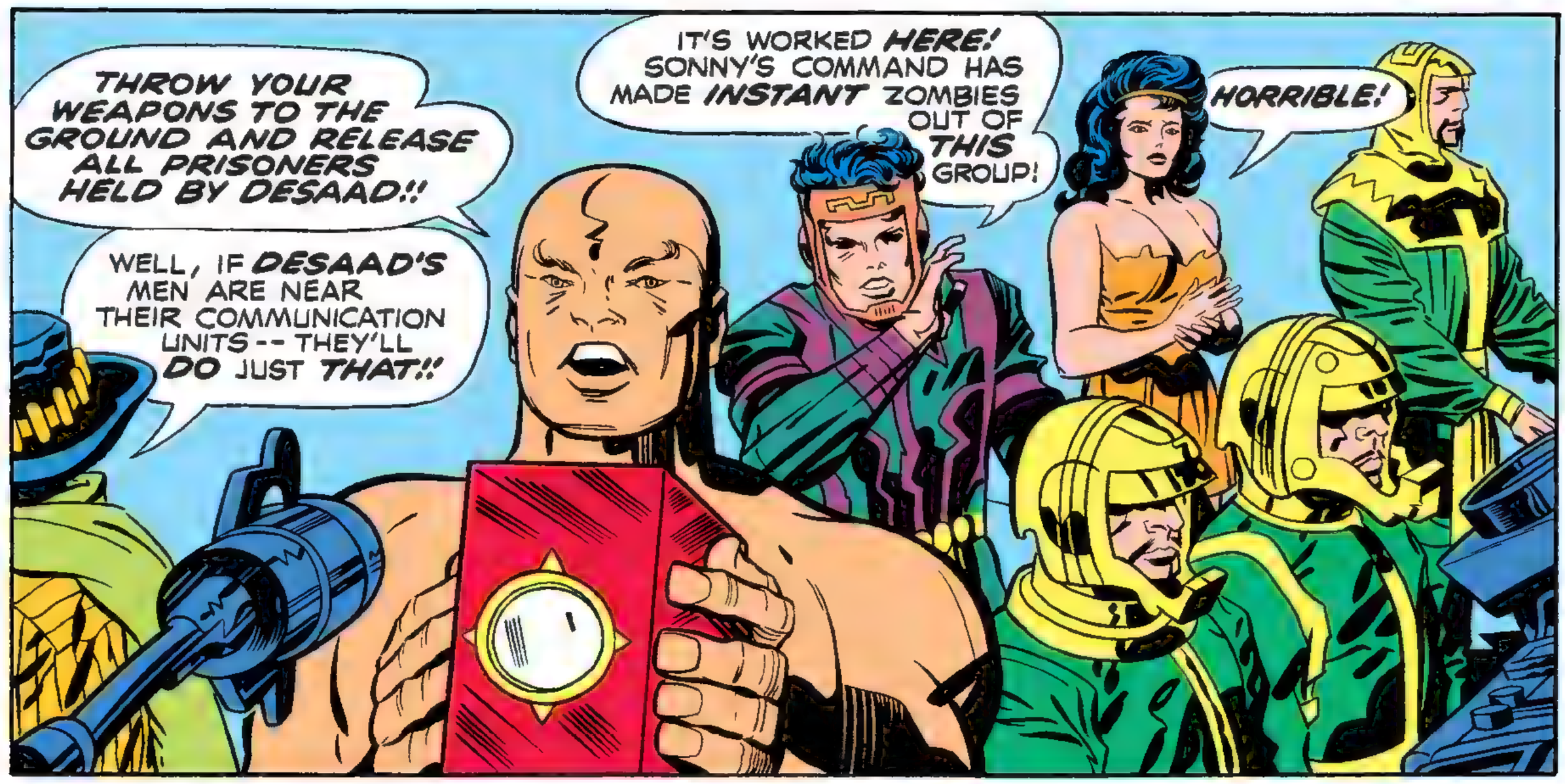
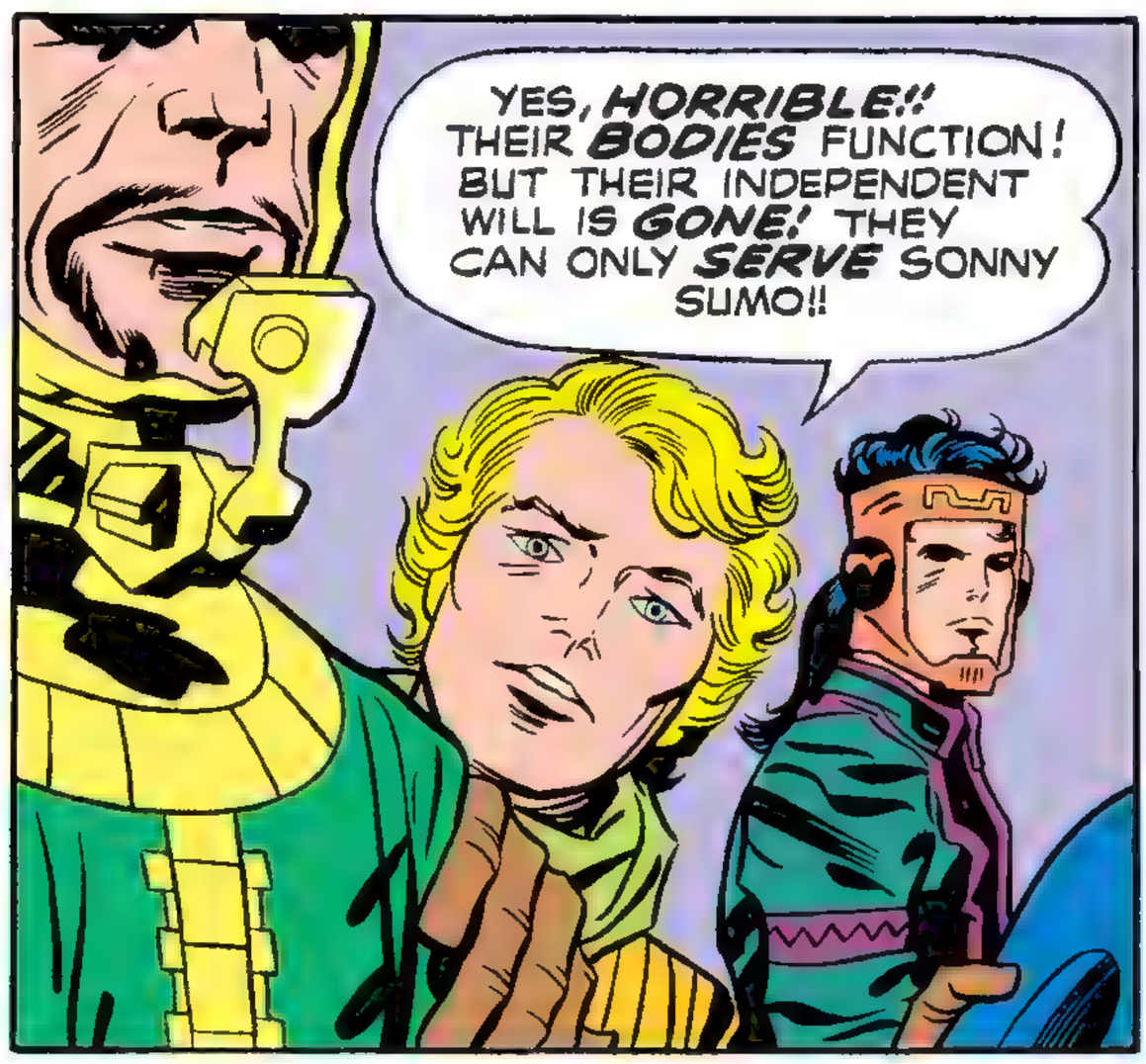

THROW YOUR WEAPONS TO THE GROUND AND RELEASE ALL PRISONERS HELD BY DESAAD!!
WELL, IF DESAAD'S MEN ARE NEAR THEIR COMMUNICATION UNITS -- THEY'LL DO JUST THAT!!
IT'S WORKED HERE! SONNY'S COMMAND HAS MADE INSTANT ZOMBIES OUT OF THIS GROUP!
HORRIBLE!


YES, HORRIBLE!! THEIR BODIES FUNCTION! BUT THEIR INDEPENDENT WILL IS GONE! THEY CAN ONLY SERVE SONNY SUMO!!

TRUE ANTI-LIFE!! RIGHT NOW, AS WIELDER OF THE POWER, SONNY SUMO IS EVEN GREATER THAN DARKSEID HIMSELF!!

AND HERE IN THE HEART OF HAPPYLAND, I VOTE TO LEAVE!
I DON'T BLAME YOU!! ORDER ONE OF THESE ZOMBIES TO GIVE ME HIS WEAPON!!

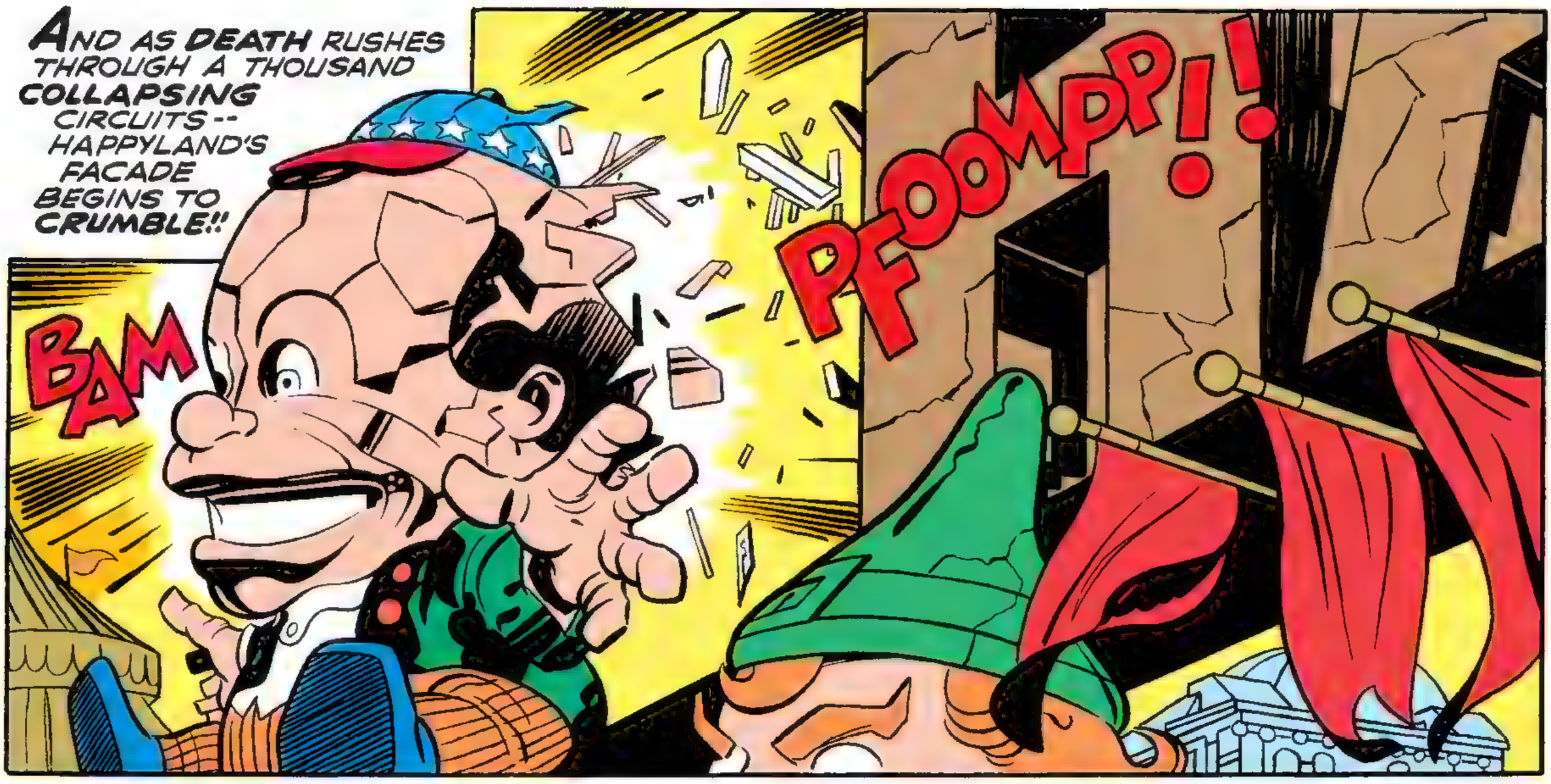
YOU HEARD HIM!!! DO IT!
I OBEY!!

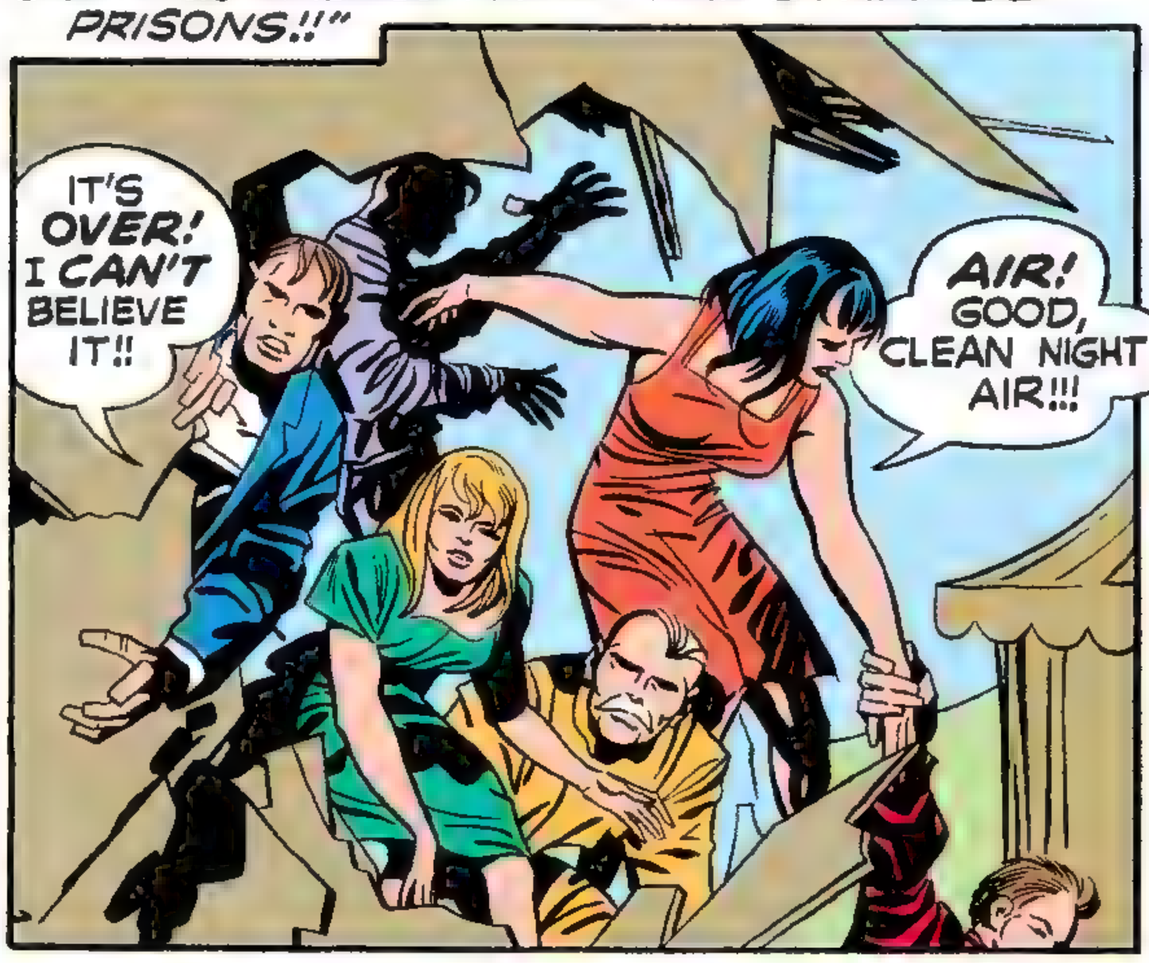
ALL INSTRUMENTS IN THIS ROOM OPERATE EVERYTHING SEEN AND HIDDEN IN HAPPYLAND AMUSEMENT PARK!!!
A FEW WELL PLACED SHOTS WILL START A CHAIN OF DISRUPTION THAT CAN'T BE STOPPED!
GO!

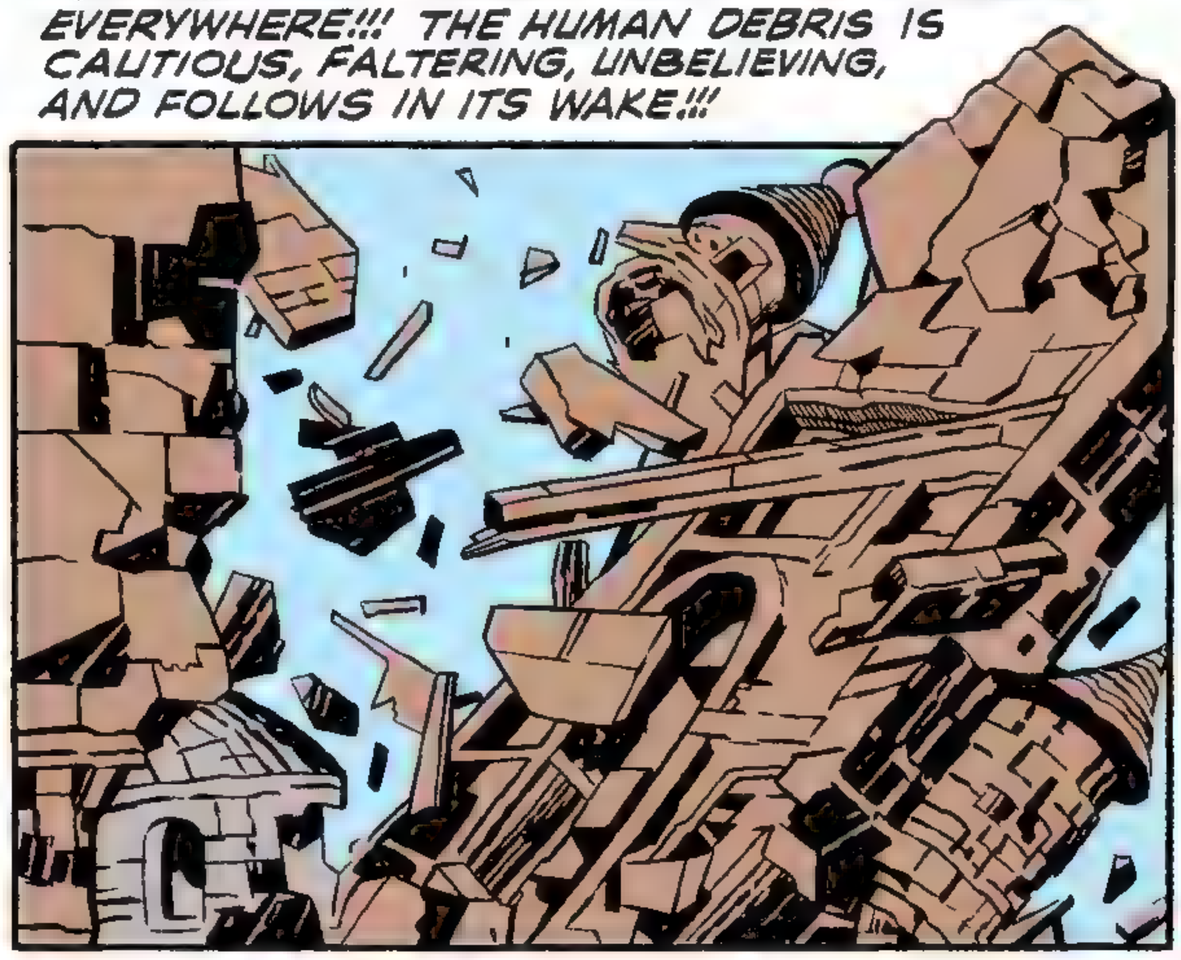
WOMP!
--AND SO WE TAKE LEAVE OF HAPPYLAND!!

--KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED!! WHERE PAIN MASQUERADES AS LAUGHTER--WHERE DESPAIR AND DEATH PERFORM FOR DESAAD!!!
TLOFF!

ZOMM!
HAPPYLAND! --WHOSE DYING REMAINS I LEAVE TO THE POLICE MOP-UP SQUADS!!
7

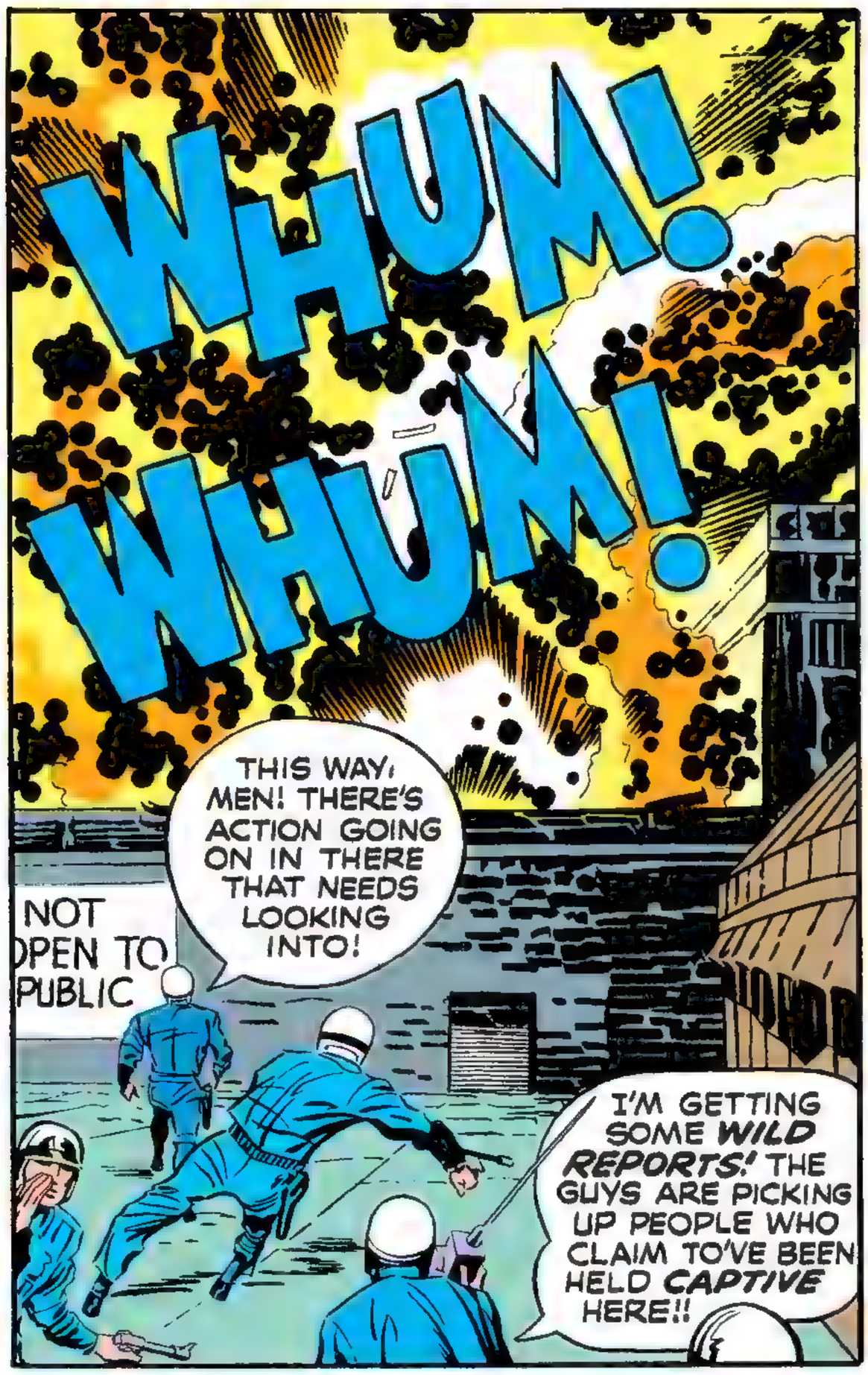

AND AS DEATH RUSHES THROUGH A THOUSAND COLLAPSING CIRCUITS -- HAPPYLAND'S FACADE BEGINS TO CRUMBLE!!
BAM
PFOOMPP!!


FREED BY THE SEVERE "SHAKE-UP," THE CAPTIVES EMERGE FROM THEIR STRANGE PRISONS!!"
IT'S OVER! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
AIR! GOOD, CLEAN NIGHT AIR!!!


EXHIBITS, RIDES, AND WONDROUS CASTLES FOUNDER AND TUMBLE AND THROW DEBRIS EVERYWHERE!!! THE HUMAN DEBRIS IS CAUTIOUS, FALTERING, UNBELIEVING, AND FOLLOWS IN ITS WAKE!!!

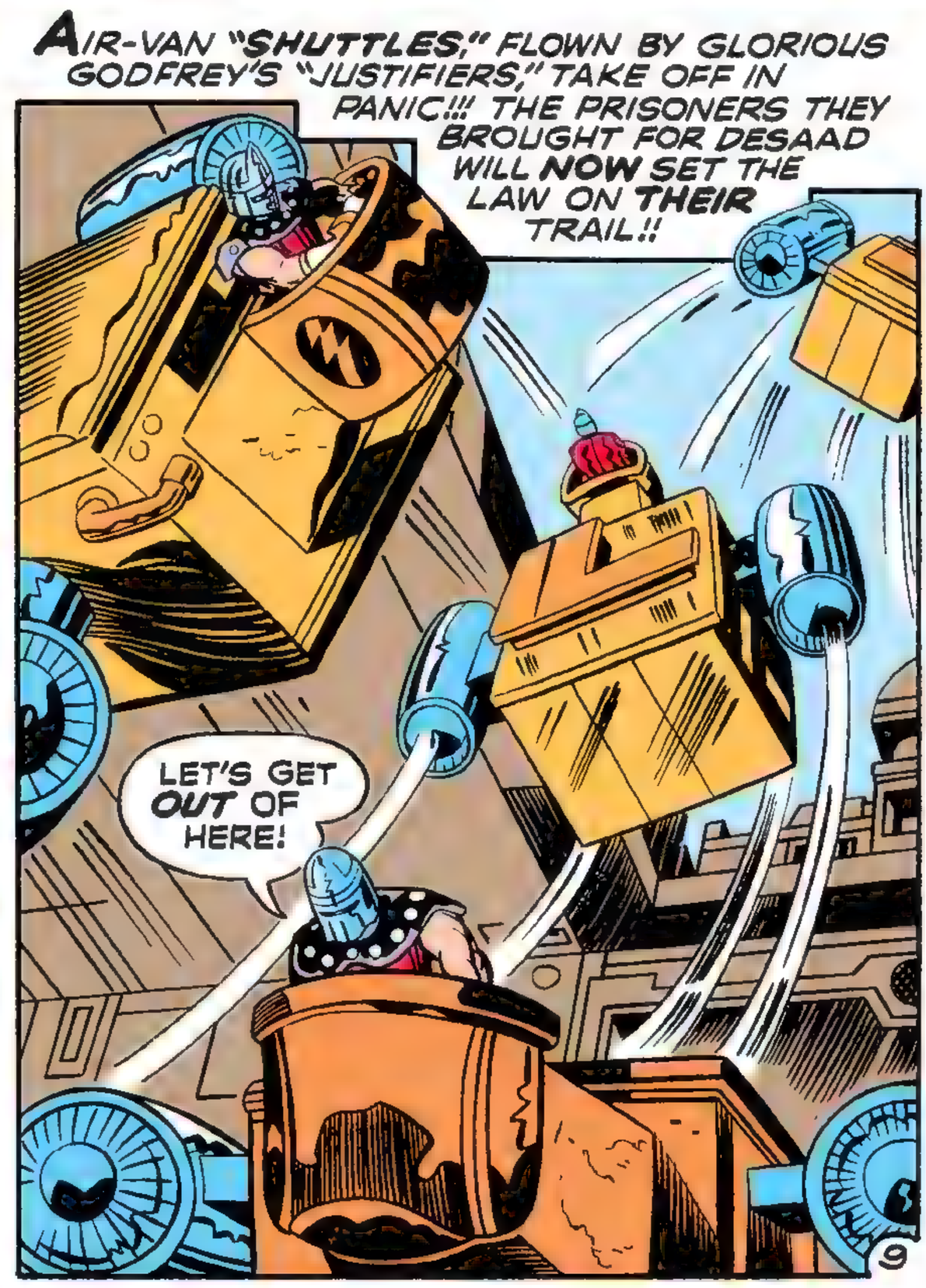
HEY! WE'RE OUT! --AND NOBODY'S STOPPING US!! I DON'T SEE ANY GUARDS---
KEEP GOING!! DON'T STOP TILL YOU BUMP INTO A POLICEMAN!!

THE POLICE ARRIVE IN DROVES!! IT IS LATE AT NIGHT IN HAPPY-LAND!!--AND THE ABSENT CROWDS MISS ITS MOST SPECTACULAR EVENT!!!--- ITS OWN DEATH!!!
FALL OUT, MEN! FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!!!
OFF-HAND I'D SAY THE PLACE IS COMING APART!!
BOOOM
8

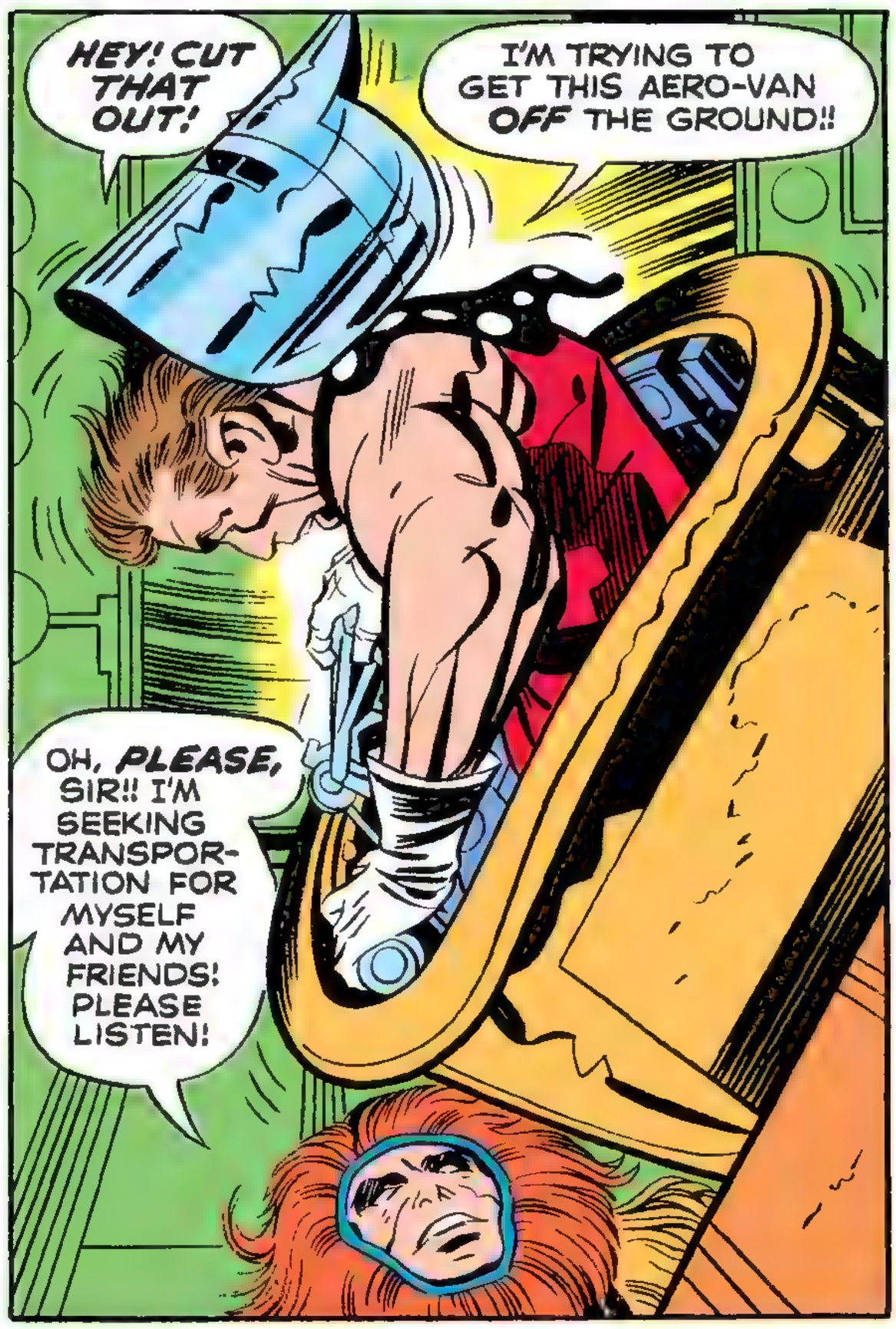

WHUM!
WHUM!
THIS WAY, MEN! THERE'S ACTION GOING ON IN THERE THAT NEEDS LOOKING INTO!
NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC
I'M GETTING SOME WILD REPORTS! THE GUYS ARE PICKING UP PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO'VE BEEN HELD CAPTIVE HERE!!

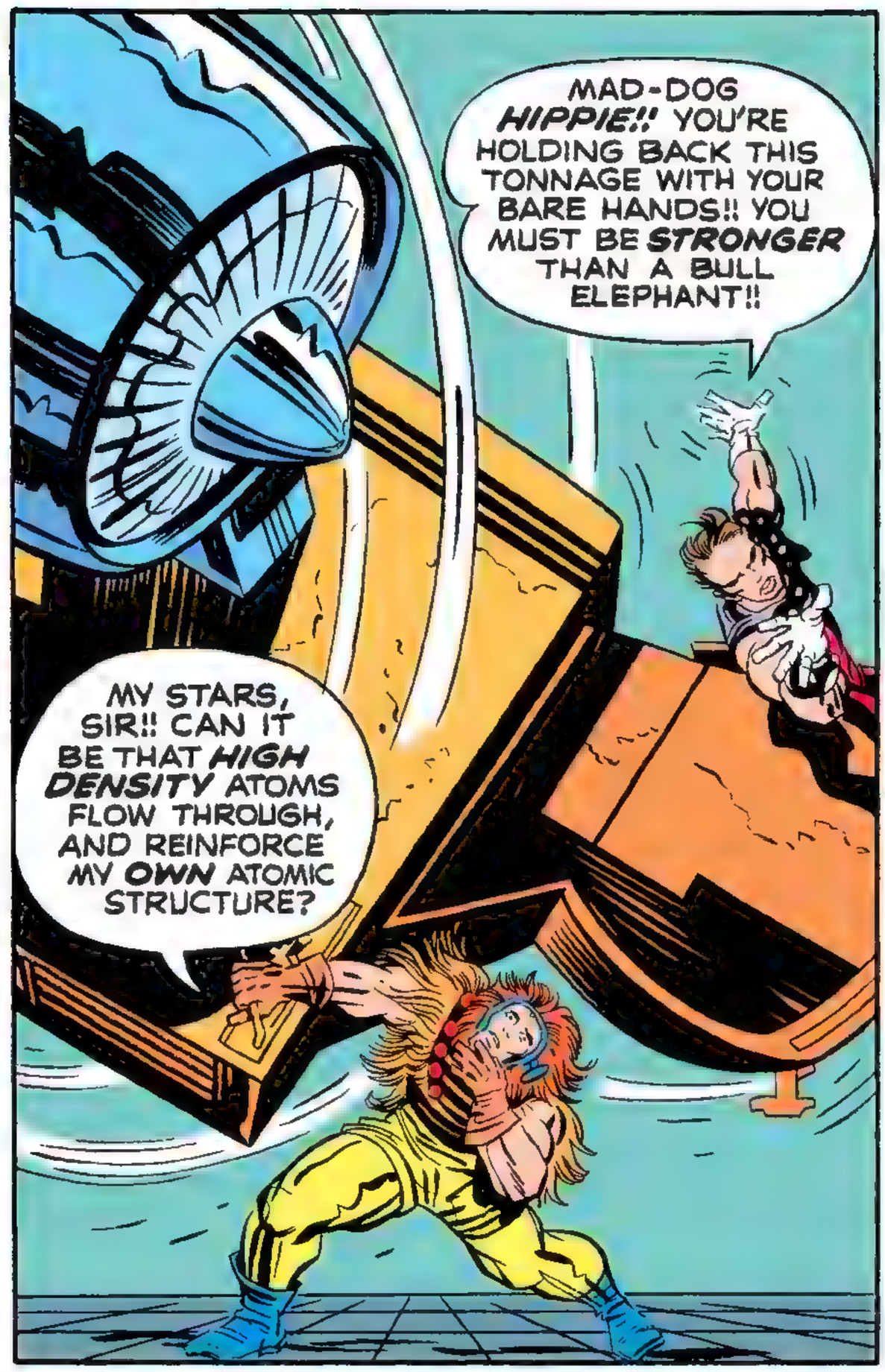
THEN, THE HIDDEN COMPLEX IS BARED!! INSIDE THE POLICE FIND THOSE WHO'VE HEARD SONNY SUMO'S COMMANDS!! THEY MEEKLY WAIT TO BE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY!!!
LOOK AT THESE GUNS! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE 'EM!!
WHO ARE THESE BIRDS?
TAKE 'EM IN FOR QUESTIONING!!

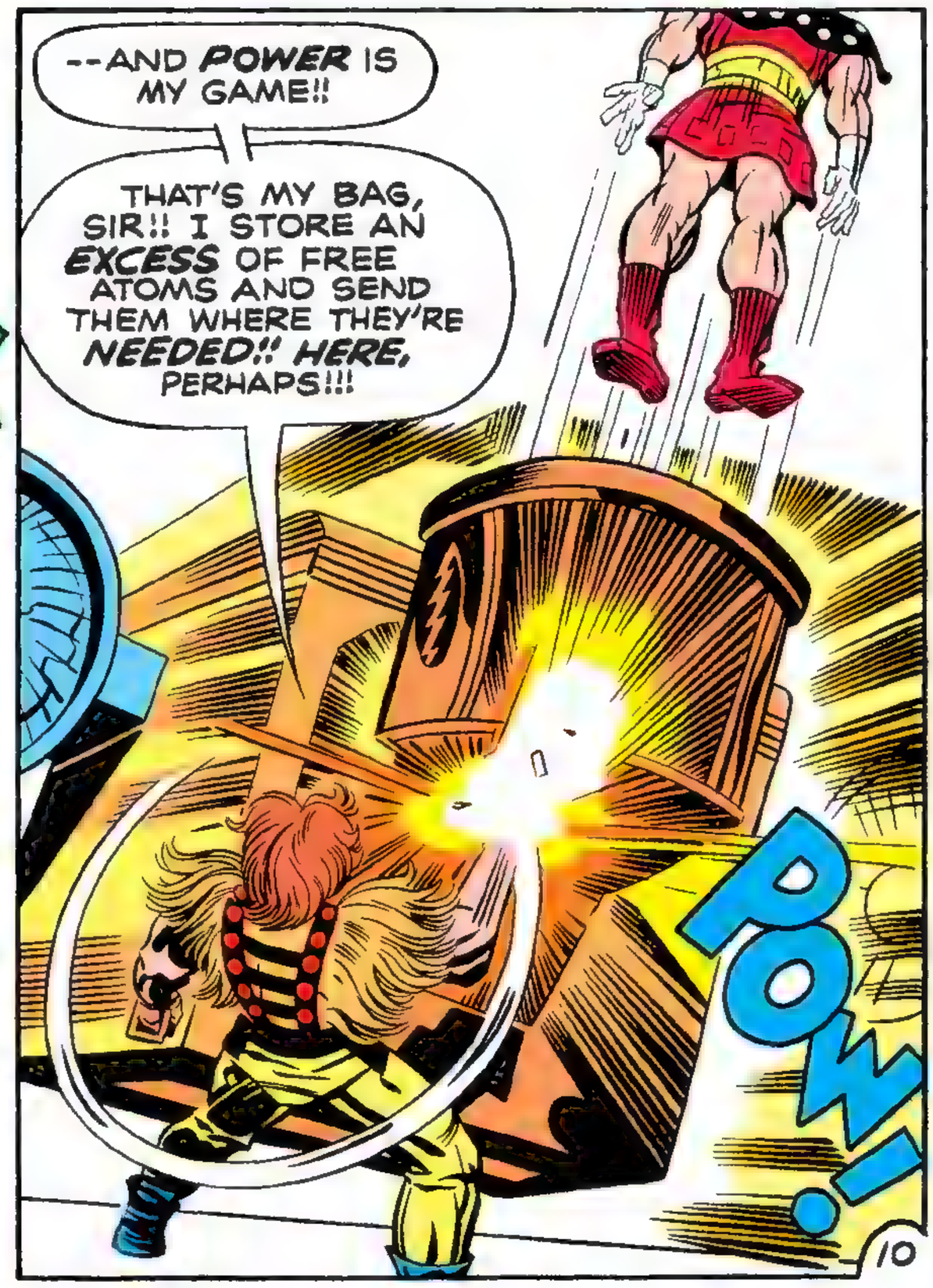
THE REST OF THIS DETAIL, FOLLOW ME!! THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON UNDERGROUND!
SOME OF IT'S COMING UP NOW!! AND IT LOOKS EVEN WEIRDER THAN THE REST OF THE RIDES!!!

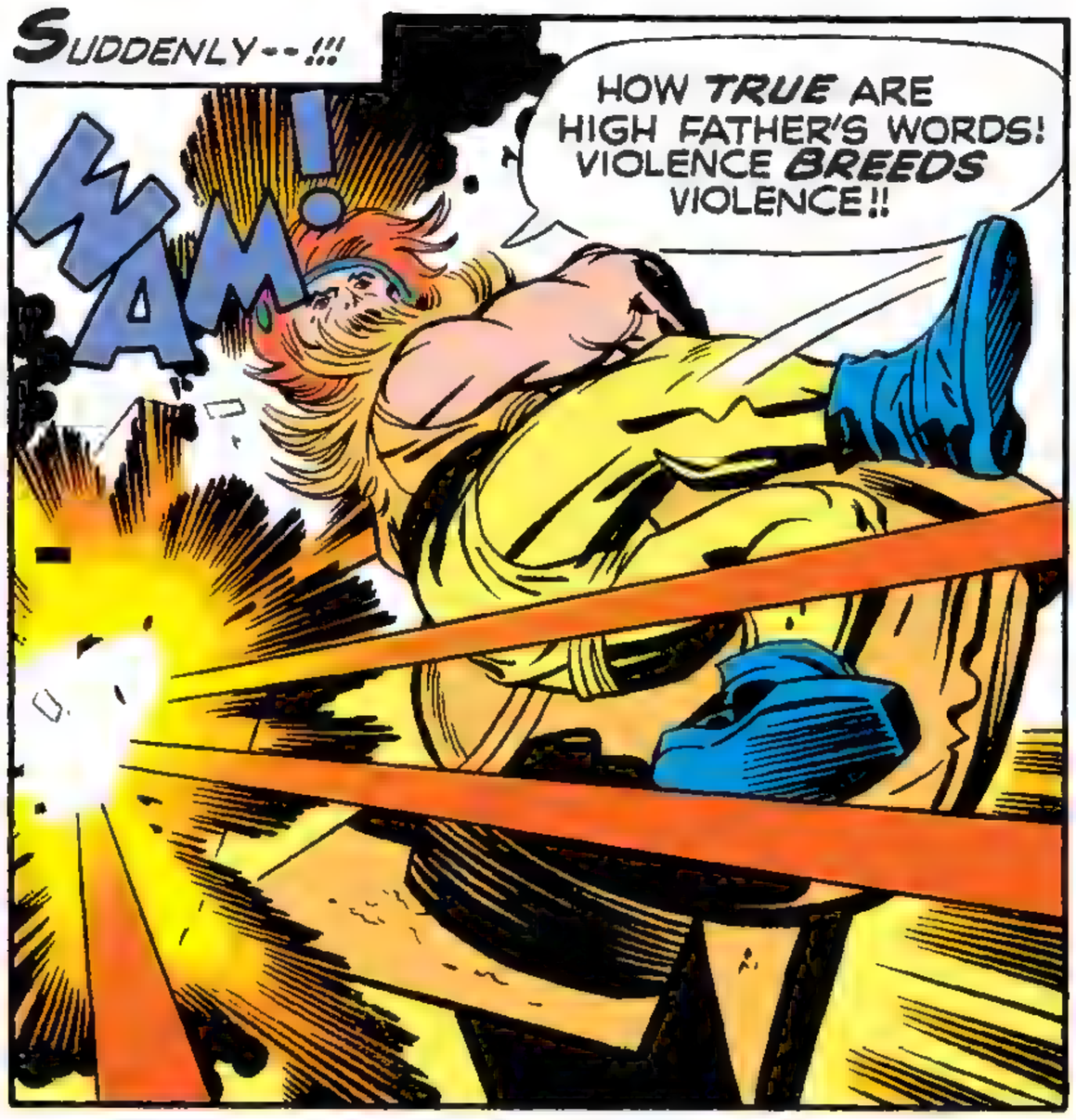

AIR-VAN "SHUTTLES," FLOWN BY GLORIOUS GODFREY'S "JUSTIFIERS," TAKE OFF IN PANIC!!! THE PRISONERS THEY BROUGHT FOR DESAAD WILL NOW SET THE LAW ON THEIR TRAIL!!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

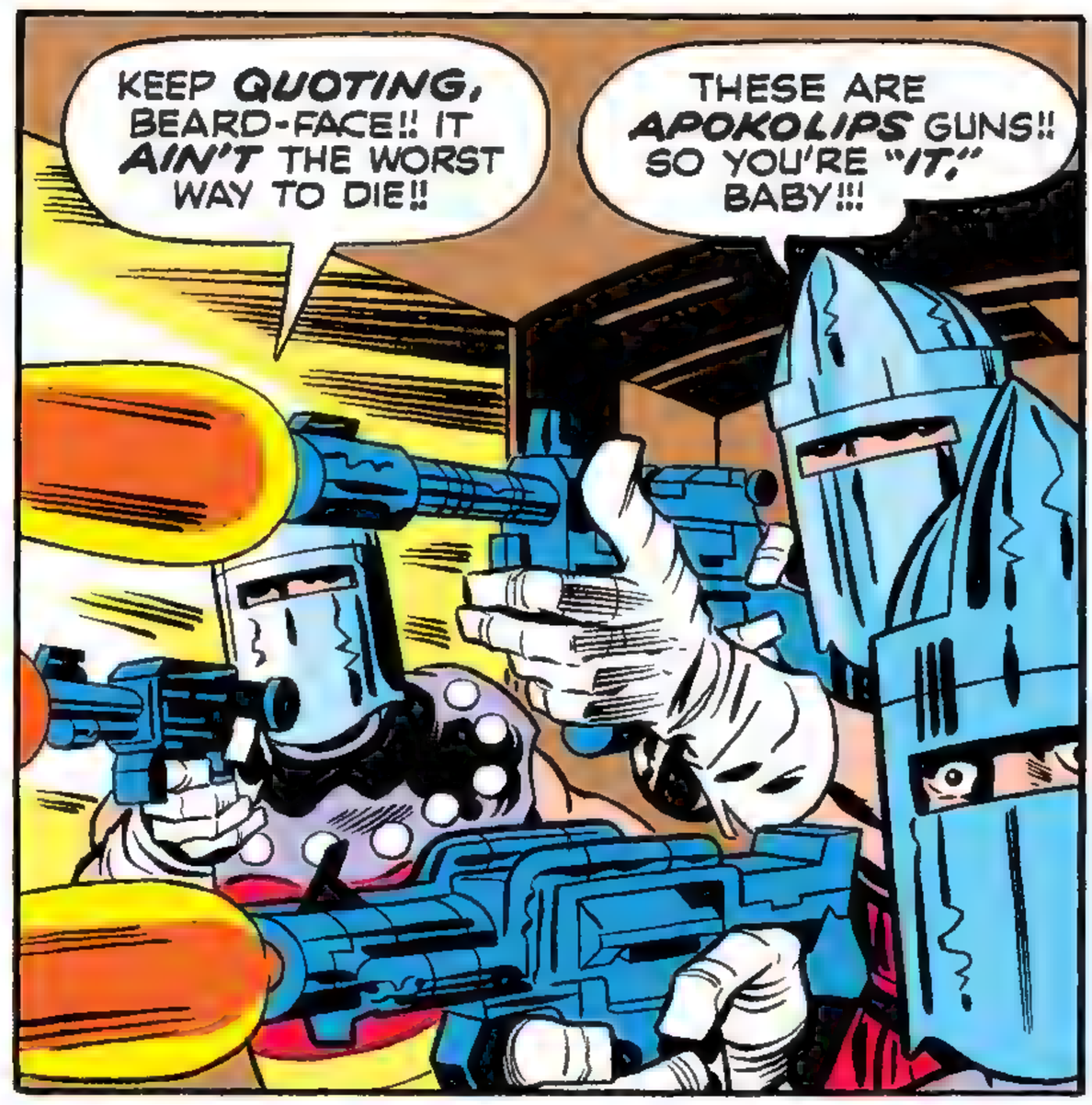
BUT ONE OF THE "JUSTIFIERS" IS DELAYED FROM LEAVING THE SECRET LANDING STRIP!

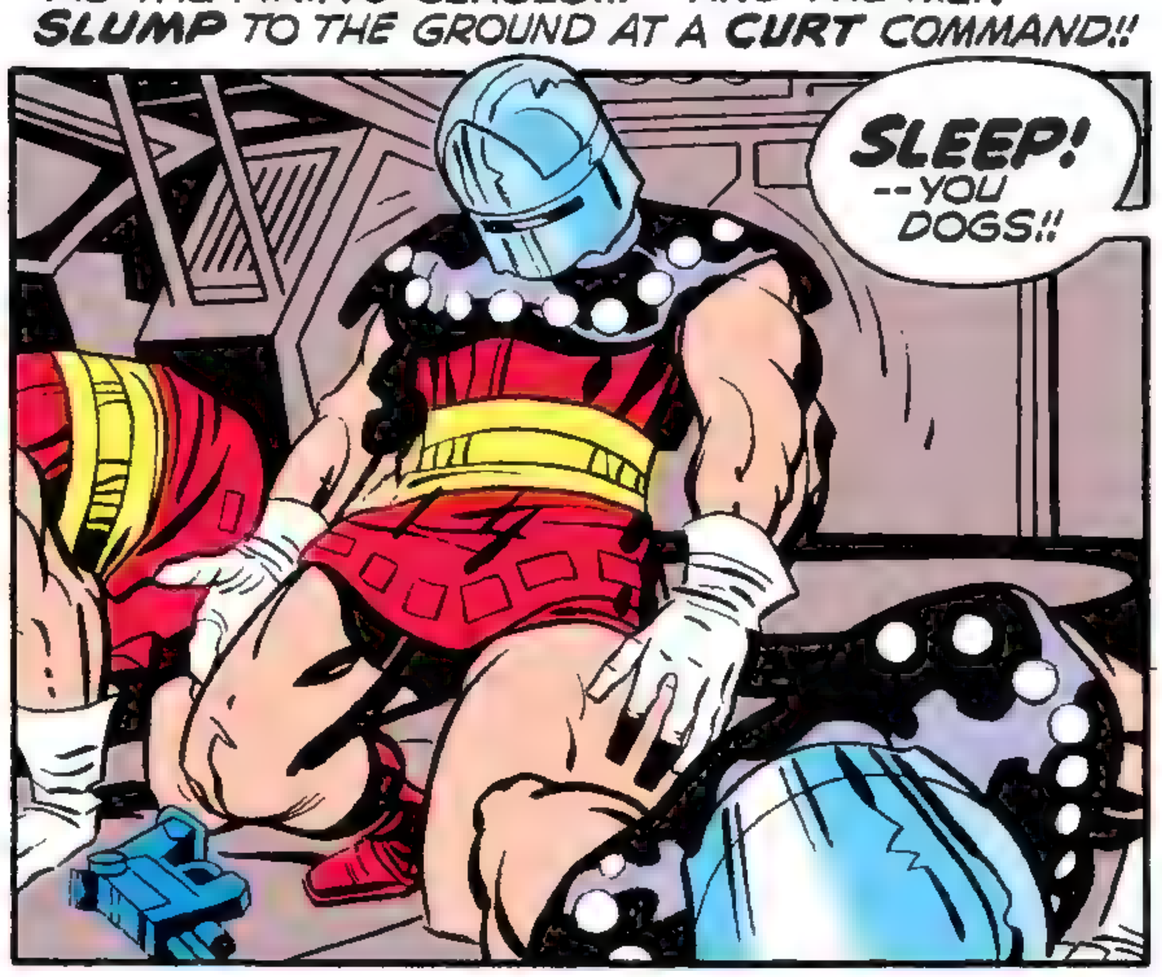




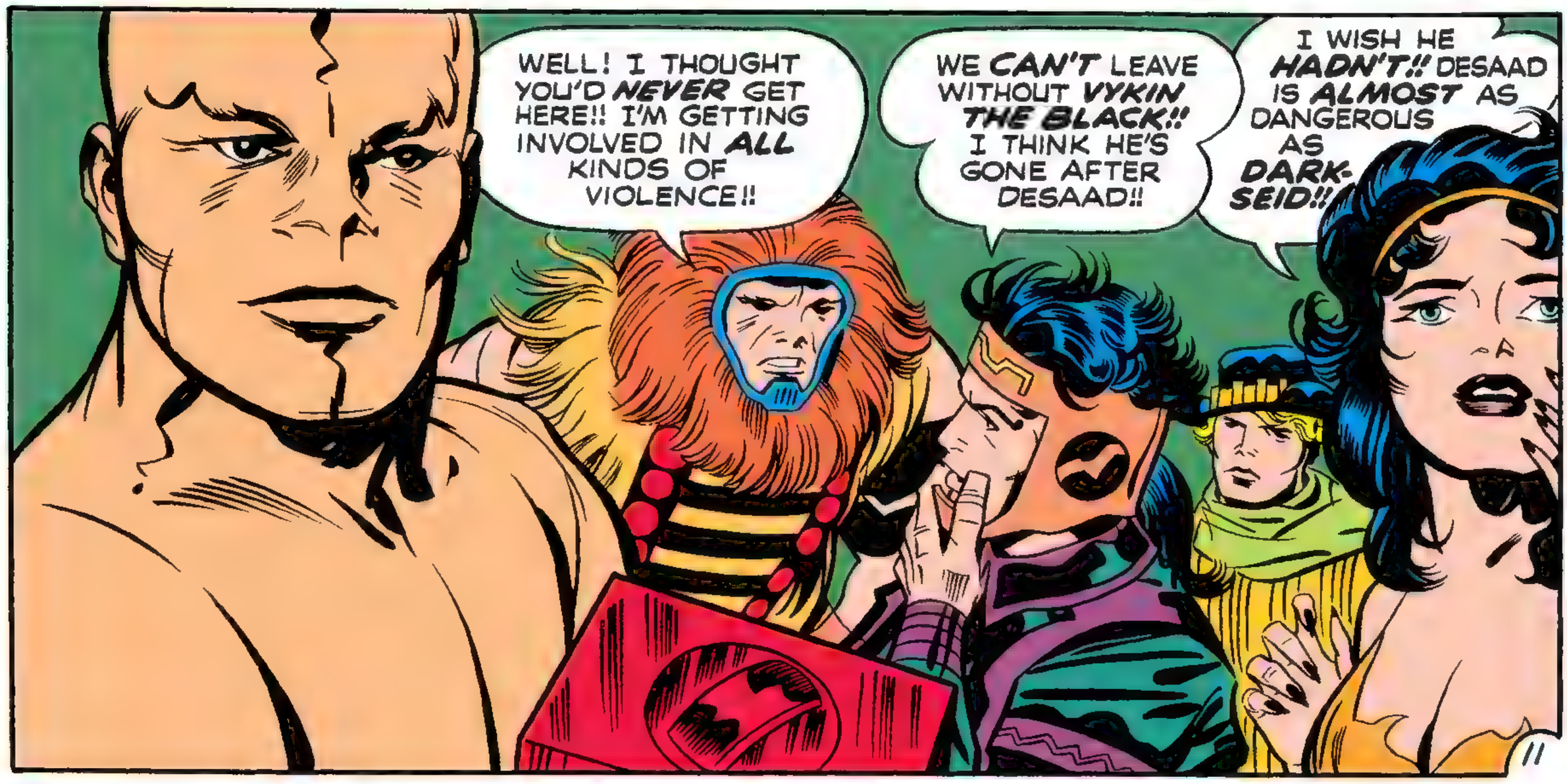



SUDDENLY--!!!
WAM!
HOW TRUE ARE HIGH FATHER'S WORDS! VIOLENCE BREEDS VIOLENCE!!


KEEP QUOTING, BEARD-FACE!! IT AIN'T THE WORST WAY TO DIE!!
THESE ARE APOKOLIPS GUNS!! SO YOU'RE "IT," BABY!!!


EXPLOSIVE ECHOES STILL CRASH ABOUT AS THE FIRING CEASES!!! --AND THE MEN SLUMP TO THE GROUND AT A CURT COMMAND!!
SLEEP! --YOU DOGS!!

OH! I'M GLAD YOU STOPPED THIS, SONNY!! BIG BEAR COULD HAVE HURT THESE MEN!!
BUT I THOUGHT I WAS SAVING HIM!!
YOU DON'T KNOW THE FULL RANGE OF BIG BEAR'S POWER!!


WELL! I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER GET HERE!! I'M GETTING INVOLVED IN ALL KINDS OF VIOLENCE!!
WE CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT VYKIN THE BLACK!! I THINK HE'S GONE AFTER DESAAD!!
I WISH HE HADN'T!! DESAAD IS ALMOST AS DANGEROUS AS DARK-SEID!!

BEAUTIFUL DREAMER'S FEARS ARE OMINOUSLY WELL-FOUNDED!! SOMEWHERE IN THE WARRENS OF HAPPYLAND, BOTH GREAT POWERS OF APOKOLIPS WATCH AND REACT!!!

FASCINATING!! THOSE YOUNG HOTBLOODS OF NEW GENESIS HAVE FOUND A WAY TO OUTWIT US, DESAAD!!

YES-- WITH A MOTHER BOX AND THAT MOUNTAIN OF MUSCLE-- SONNY SUMO!

SUMO, WITHOUT MIND STIMULATION FROM THE MOTHER BOX, CAN'T USE THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!!

BUT IF THEY SHOULD CONFRONT US AT THIS MOMENT-- EVEN WE CAN BECOME ITS VICTIMS!!! STOP THEM, SIRE!!!

I SHALL, DESAAD!! I SHALL!

BUT DON'T THINK I SHALL OVERLOOK YOUR COWARDICE!! THEN, ALL TORMENTORS ARE NOTORIOUS FOR THIS TRAIT!!

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT, NOBLE DARKSEID!! MY POWERS ARE VAST, BUT--

BUT THEY'RE IN THE REALM OF TECHNOLOGY! SUMO WIELDS THE ULTIMATE MENTAL WEAPON!!!

BOLDNESS, DESAAD!! RISK!! THE RAW MEAT OF EXISTENCE!!! I SHALL STRIKE WITH THESE!! ---AND THE OMEGA EFFECT!!!

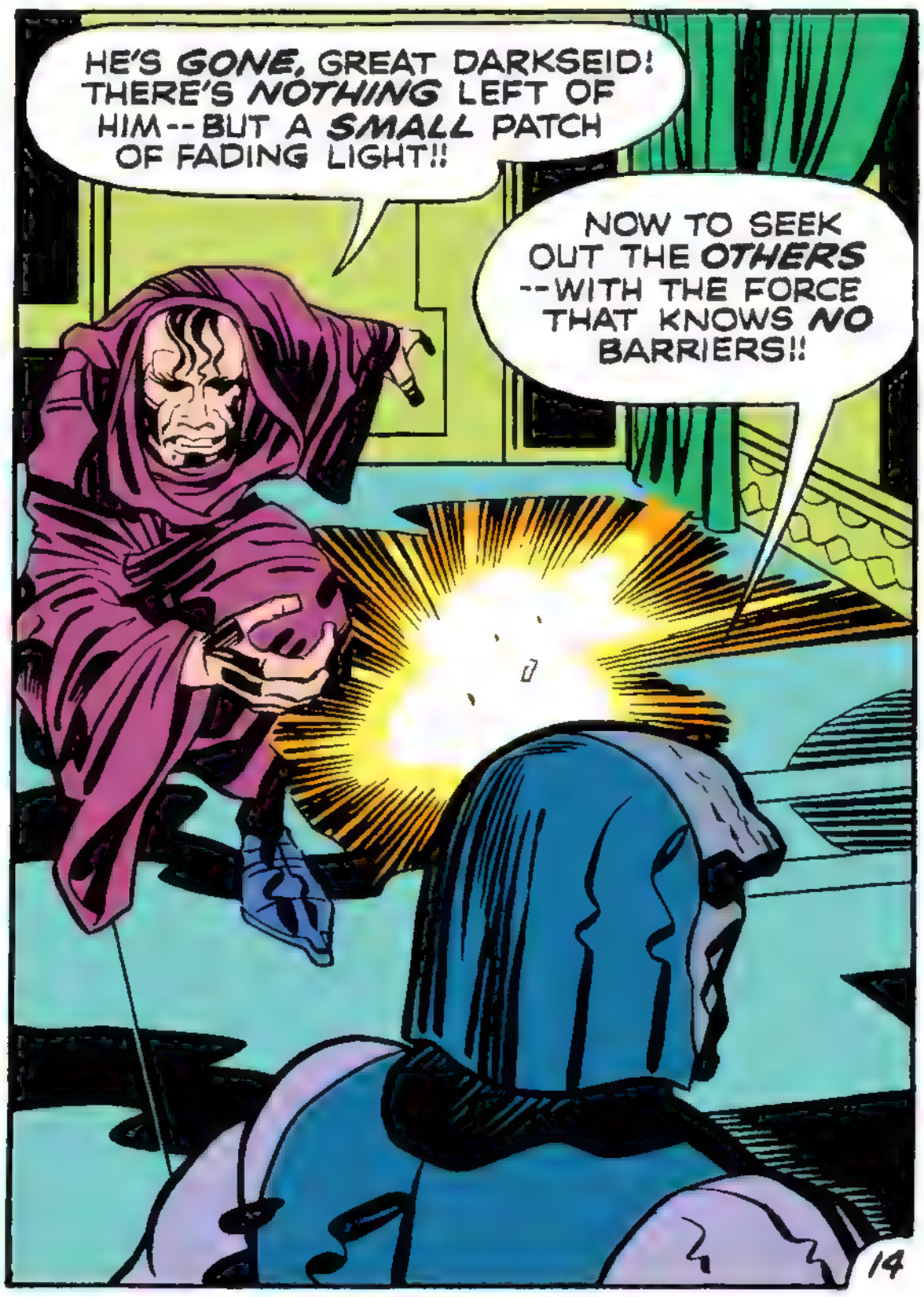
12

THE OMEGA EFFECT!!
THE END!! THE TOTAL WIPE-OUT!!! --Y-YOU WOULD USE THAT, SIRE??
THE PUPS HAVE ANGERED ME, DESAAD! --PUT ME ON THE DEFENSIVE!!! --A GREAT FEAT!!
IN WHAT MORE PROPER WAY CAN I PAY RESPECT TO SUCH DARING!!
IT BEGINS, DESAAD! I'VE GENERATED THE "FINDER BEAMS!"
13

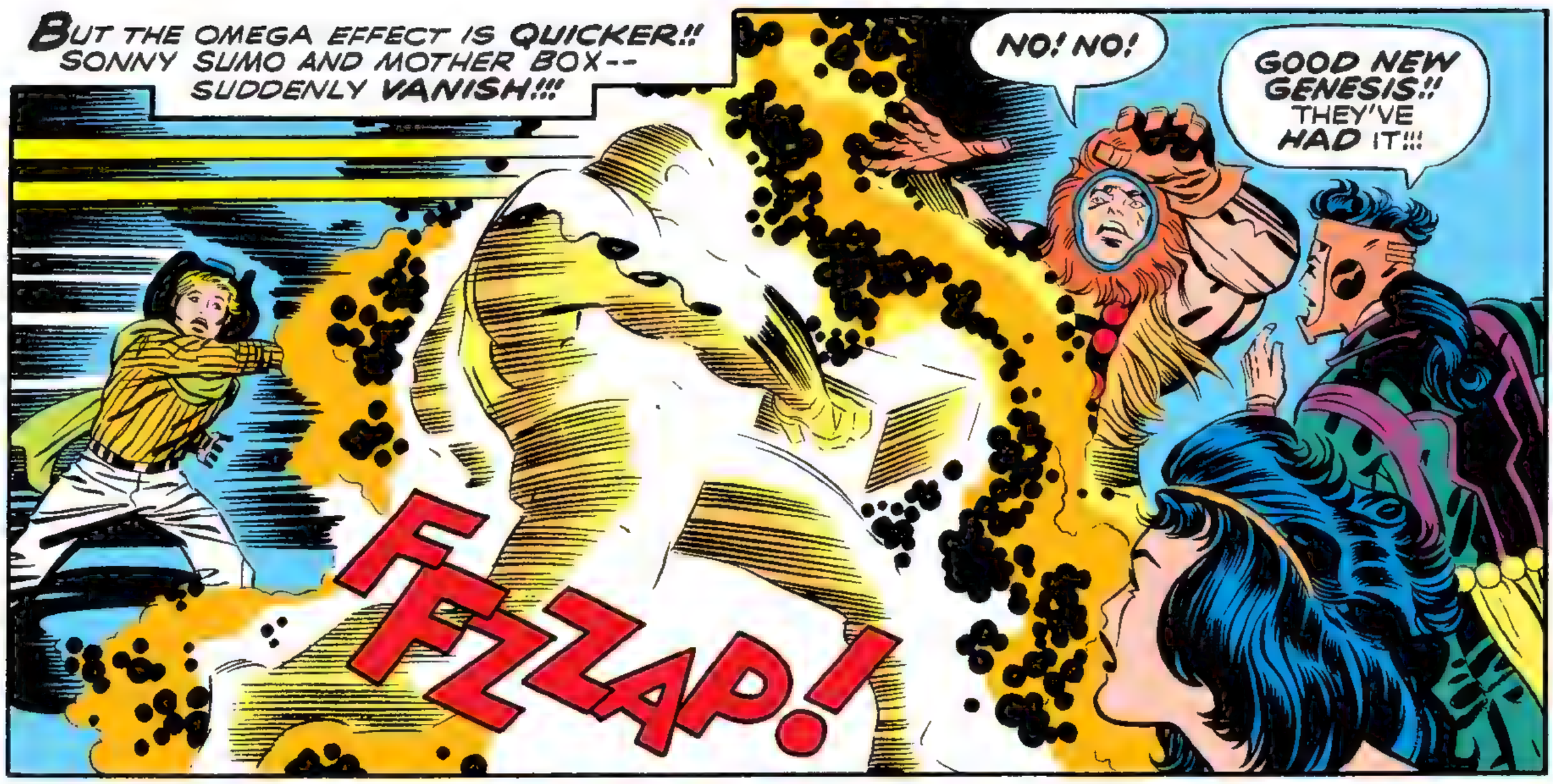
AT THAT MOMENT, VYKIN THE BLACK RUSHES INTO THE ROOM!!
I'VE FOUND YOU FIRST, DARKSEID! YOU'LL DEAL WITH ME!!

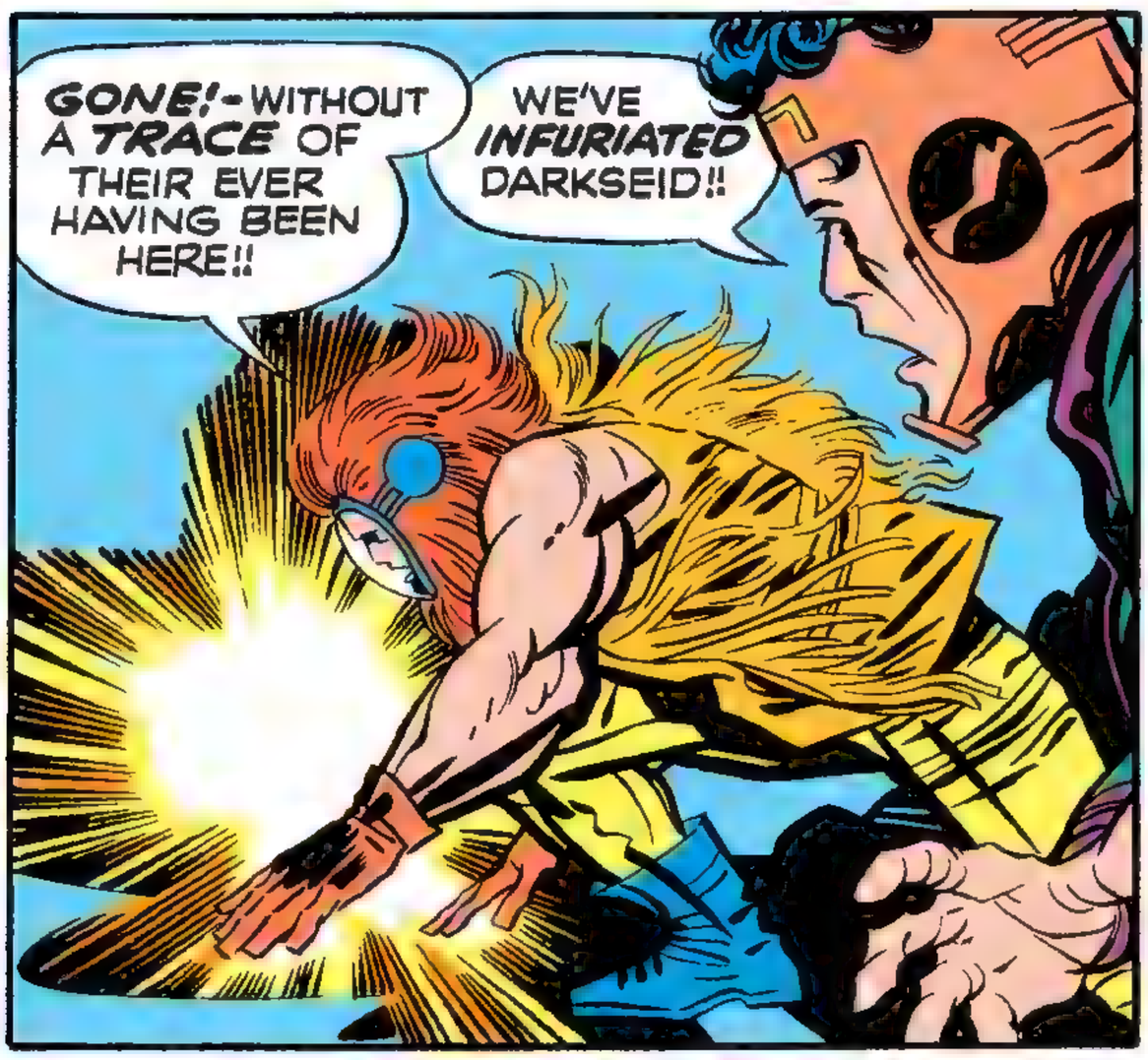
THEN, SO I SHALL!!
YOU'RE TOO LATE!! THE BEAMS ARE AT FULL POWER!!

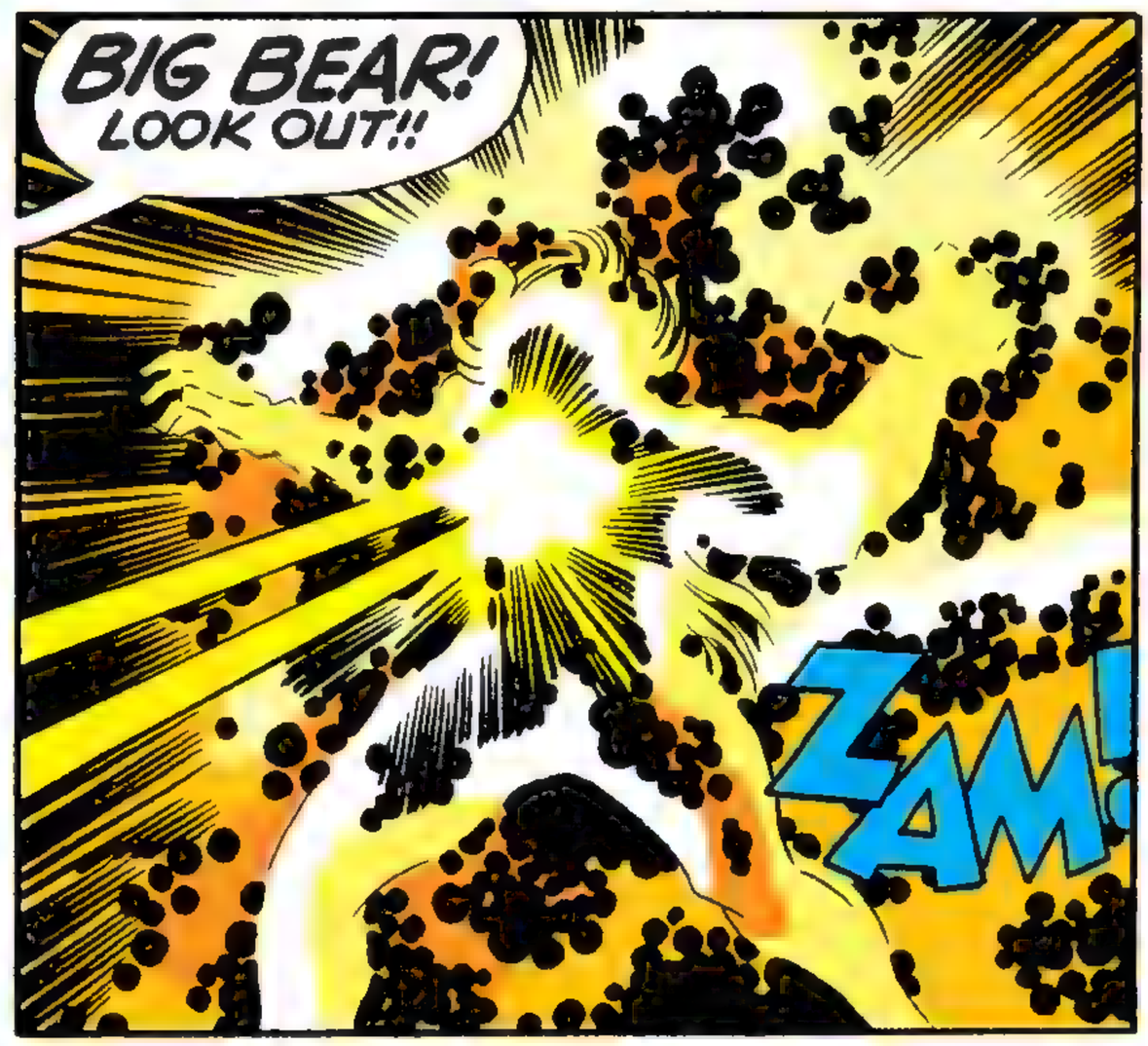
AS ALPHA IS THE BEGINNING OF ALL THINGS--THEN OMEGA IS THE END!! FAREWELL, VYKIN!
FFZOW!


HE'S GONE, GREAT DARKSEID! THERE'S NOTHING LEFT OF HIM--BUT A SMALL PATCH OF FADING LIGHT!!
NOW TO SEEK OUT THE OTHERS --WITH THE FORCE THAT KNOWS NO BARRIERS!!
14

THE OMEGA EFFECT IS SWIFT! RELENTLESS! IT REACHES THROUGH WALLS FOR HUNDREDS OF YARDS AND LOOKS ON TO ITS PREY!!
"FINDER BEAMS," MOONRIDER! --DARKSEID'S ABOUT TO CANCEL US OUT!! BUT, TOTALLY!!
SONNY! USE MOTHER BOX TO PROTECT US! SHE'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!
15


BUT THE OMEGA EFFECT IS QUICKER!! SONNY SUMO AND MOTHER BOX-- SUDDENLY VANISH!!!
NO! NO!
GOOD NEW GENESIS!! THEY'VE HAD IT!!!
FZZZAP!


GONE!-WITHOUT A TRACE OF THEIR EVER HAVING BEEN HERE!!
WE'VE INFURIATED DARKSEID!!


BIG BEAR! LOOK OUT!!
ZAM!

NO, BIG BEAR!! NOT YOU TOO!!
HE'S BEYOND HELP, MARK!! THAT THING IS AFTER ALL OF US!! LET'S RUN!!

THERE'S NO ESCAPE!! DARKSEID IS PLAYING "CAT AND MOUSE" WITH US!!
WE CAN'T JUST GIVE UP!
LET'S MAKE FOR THE AERO-VAN BIG BEAR CAPTURED!
16

NO CHANCE! SEPARATE!! TAKE DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS!!
NO, MARK! I WON'T LEAVE YOU!!
--WHILE I ATTRACT THESE BEAMS!!

WE'LL GO-- TOGETHER!!!

THE LAST TERRIBLE SIGHT IS LIKE A FATAL BLOW TO SERIFAN!! HIS OWN EXISTENCE SEEMS TO VANISH WITH HIS FRIENDS!!
OH! NO! COME BACK! BA---!

THE OMEGA EFFECT IS A MEANINGLESS TERROR TO HIM NOW!! SERIFAN WALKS FEARLESSLY INTO ITS PATH -- TOWARD THE FAST FADING VESTIGE OF ALL THAT WAS DEAR TO HIM!!
I-I--- I'M ALONE--- ALONE!-
SOB--
17

AND, AS A WITNESS TO **ENDLESS** TRAGEDY, DESAAD **ENJOYS** THIS ONE WITH EQUAL GUSTO!!

AND NOW THE **YOUNGEST**, DARKSEID! **NOW HIM!**

NO NEED!! THE THREAT TO US--HAS **PASSED!!**

WHAT!!?? YOU WOULD LEAVE SUCH A DRAMATIC EXPERIENCE **INCOMPLETE? NO, SIRE, NO!**

I **REGRET** TO SAY THIS, DESAAD!! BUT I **DON'T** HAVE THE STOMACH FOR **YOUR** KIND OF PURSUITS!!

BUT SERIFAN SHOULD **SHARE** THE FATE OF THE OTHERS!! **AND THEY NO LONGER EXIST!!!**-- -UGH!!-

I DO NO MORE THAN WHAT **HAS** TO BE DONE!!

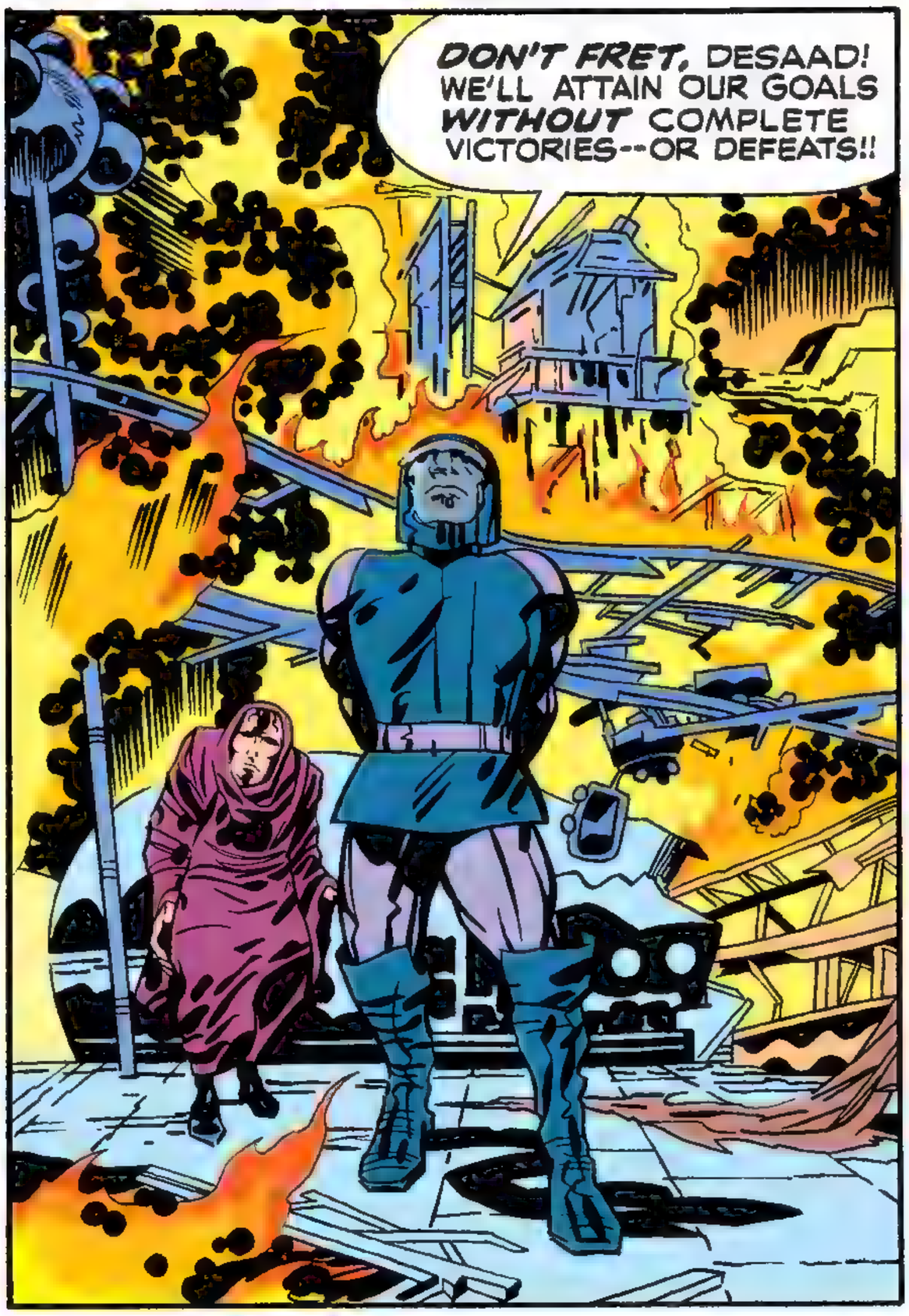
SLAP!

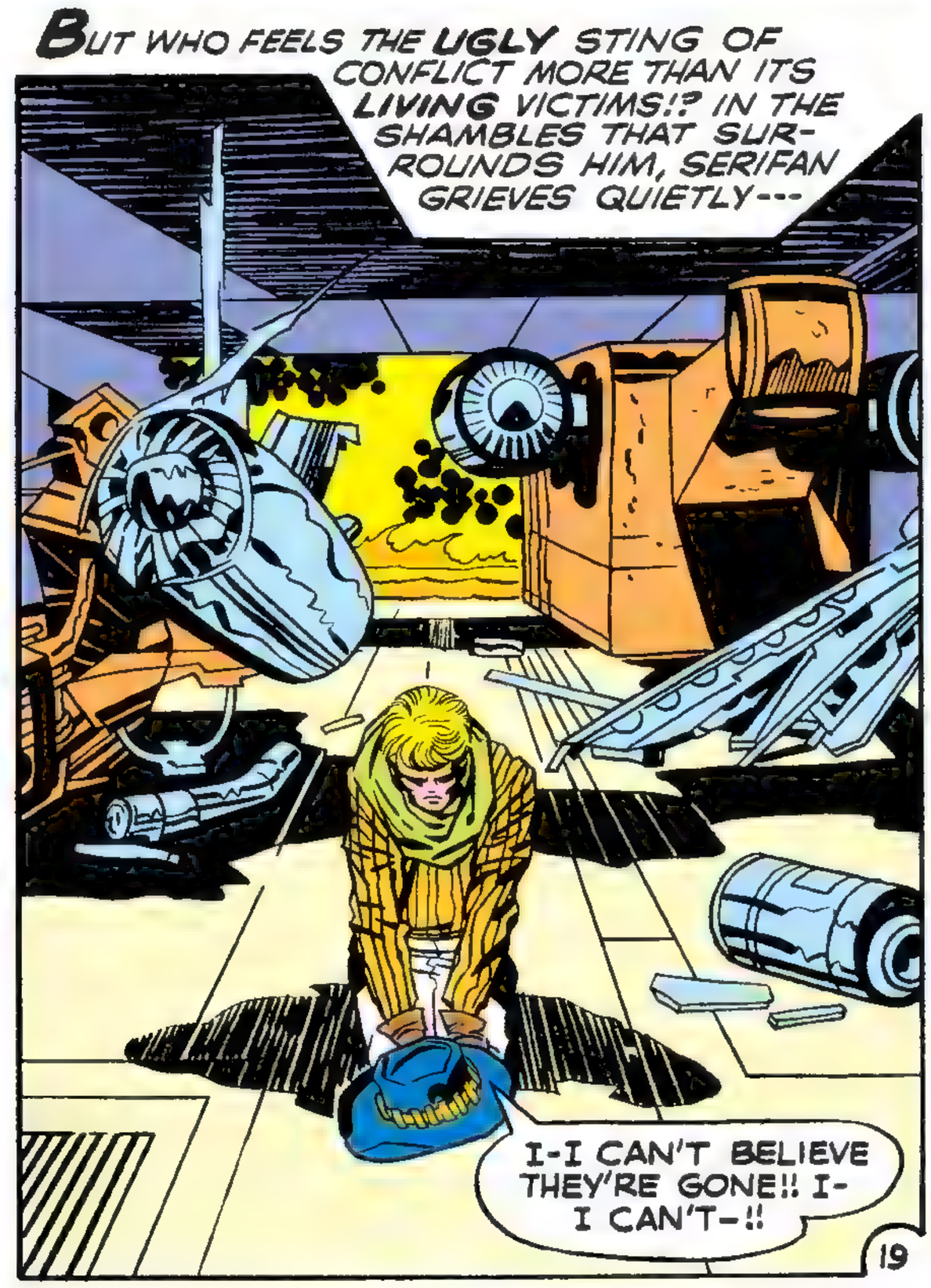
HOWEVER-- WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT THE FATE OF THE OTHERS **ISN'T** TRUE!! THEY **DO** EXIST!! --BUT **NOT HERE!! NOT NOW!!**

YOU SEE--AS **MASTER** OF THE OMEGA EFFECT I CAN **MANIPULATE** IT IN **MANY** INTRIGUING WAYS!!

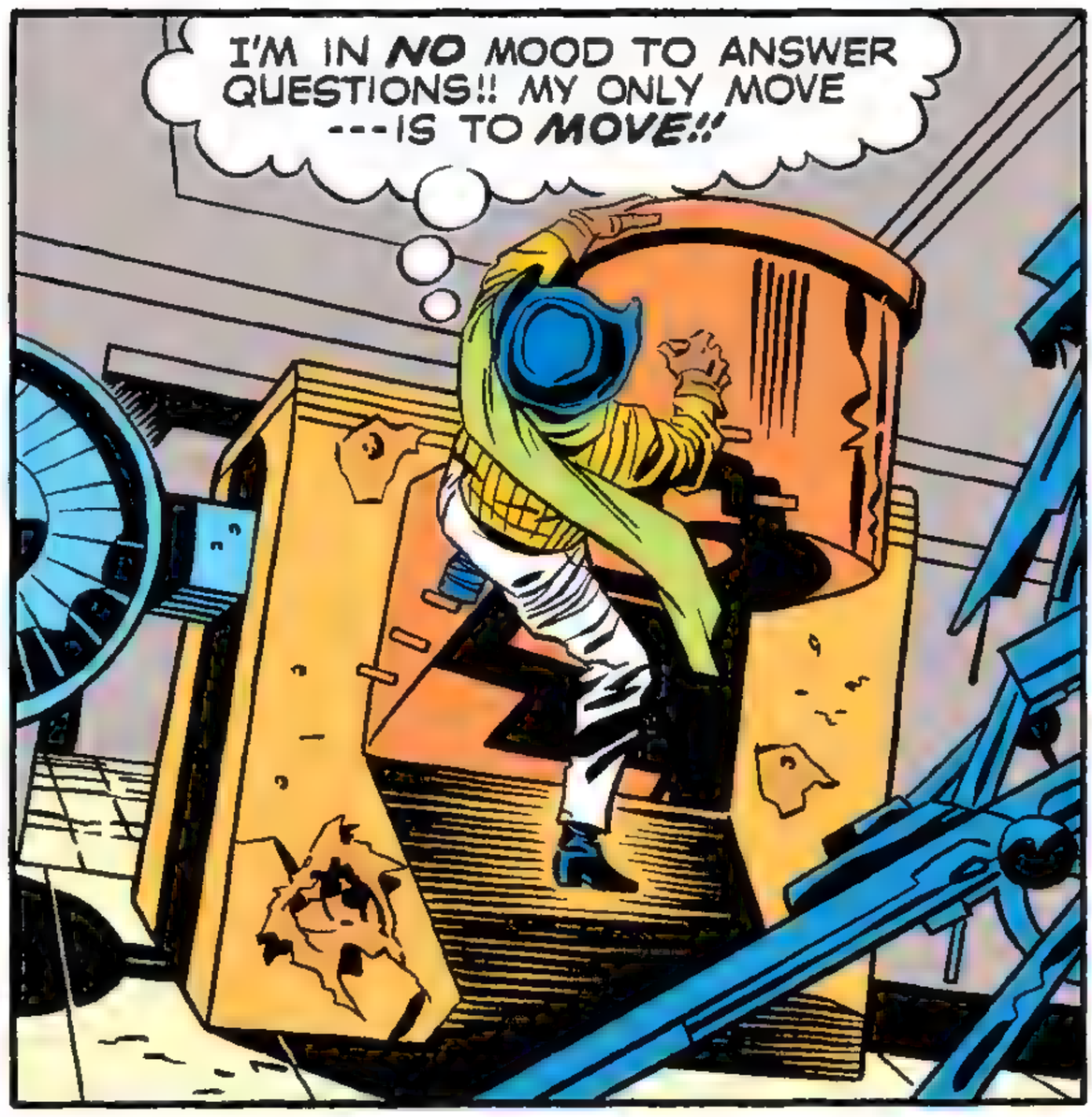
18

DARKSEID THEN WALKS OUT INTO THE FIERY NIGHT--WHERE THE HOLOCAUST OF HAPPY-LAND LIGHTS UP THE SKY!!!

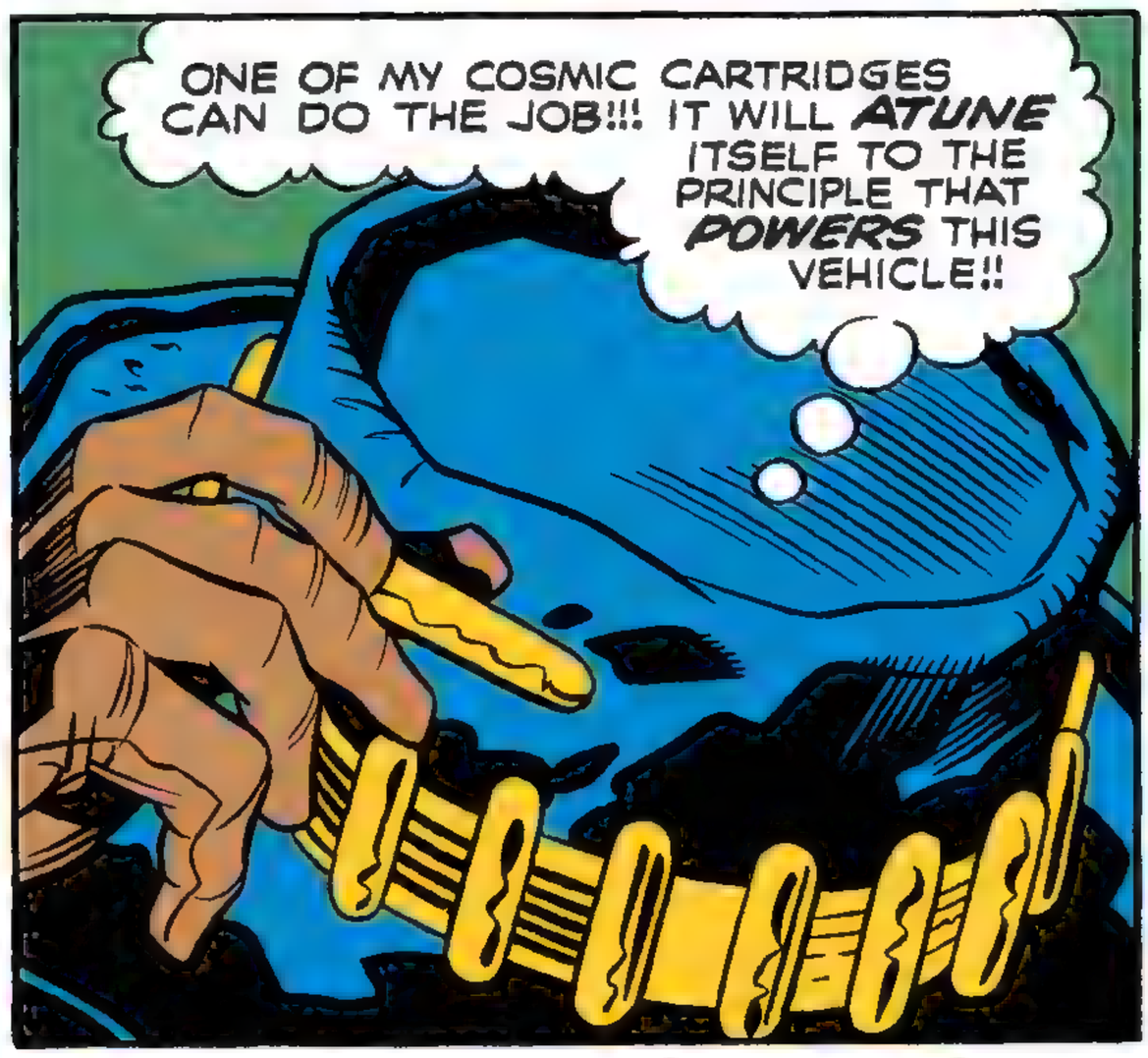




PUT YOUR SHOULDERS TO IT, MEN!! WE HAVEN'T SCOUTED THIS SECTION!!
EARTH POLICE--
BAM!
BAM!


I'M IN NO MOOD TO ANSWER QUESTIONS!! MY ONLY MOVE ---IS TO MOVE!!

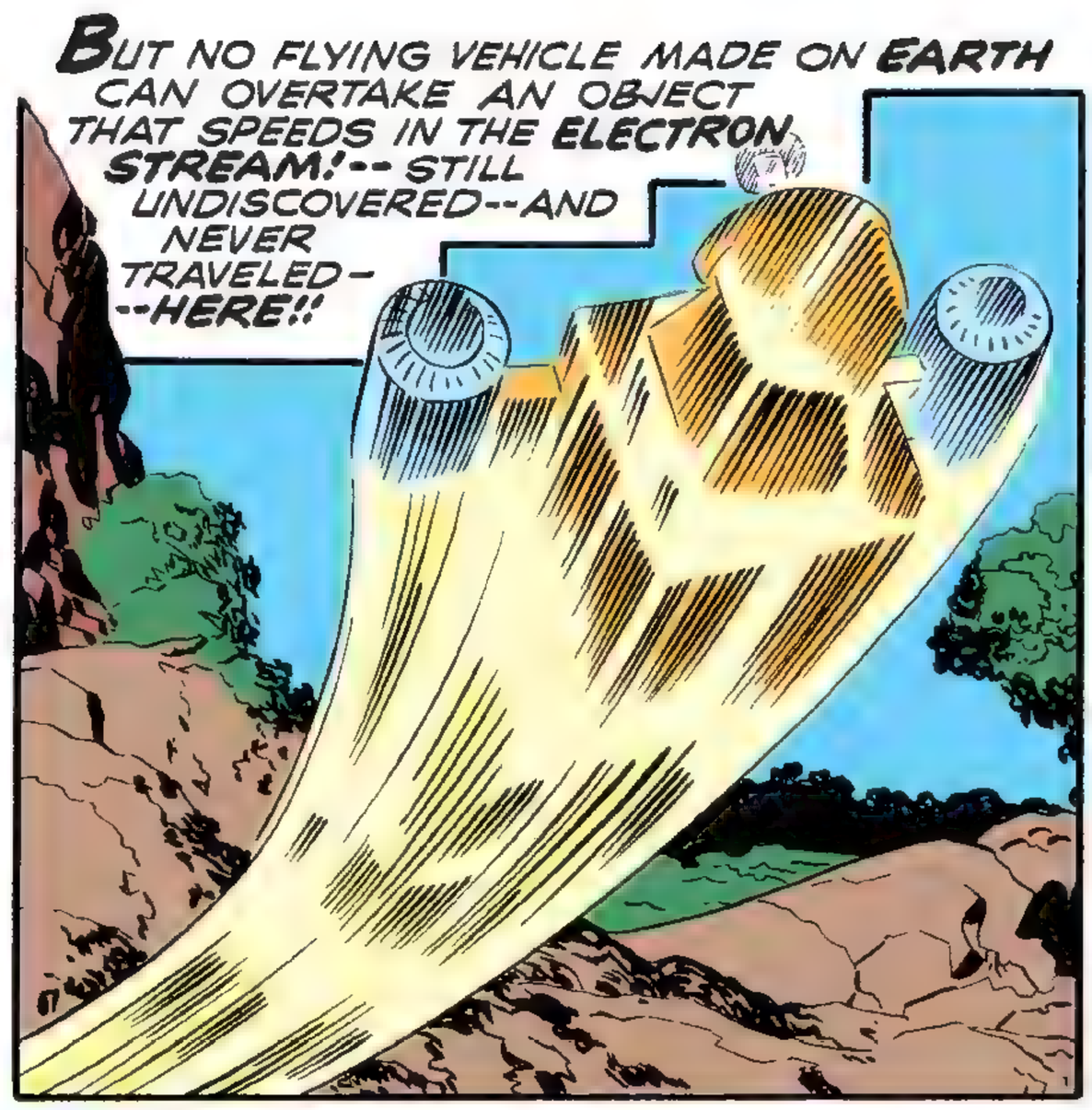
THIS AERO-VAN'S BEEN DAMAGED IN THAT SHOOT-OUT BIG BEAR WAS INVOLVED IN!!
BUT I THINK I CAN ACTIVATE THIS THING BY APPLYING AN OUTSIDE FORCE!!

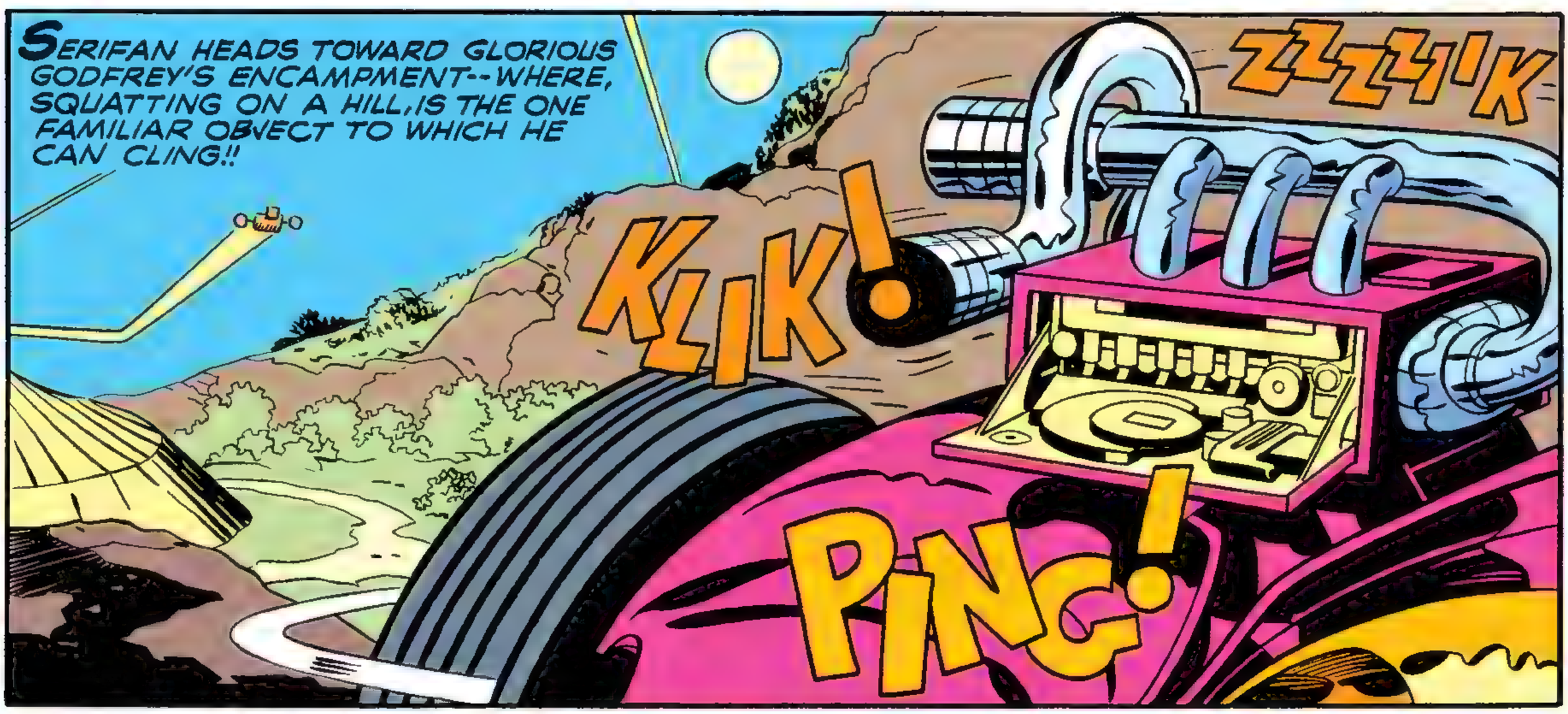

ONE OF MY COSMIC CARTRIDGES CAN DO THE JOB!!! IT WILL ATUNE ITSELF TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT POWERS THIS VEHICLE!!

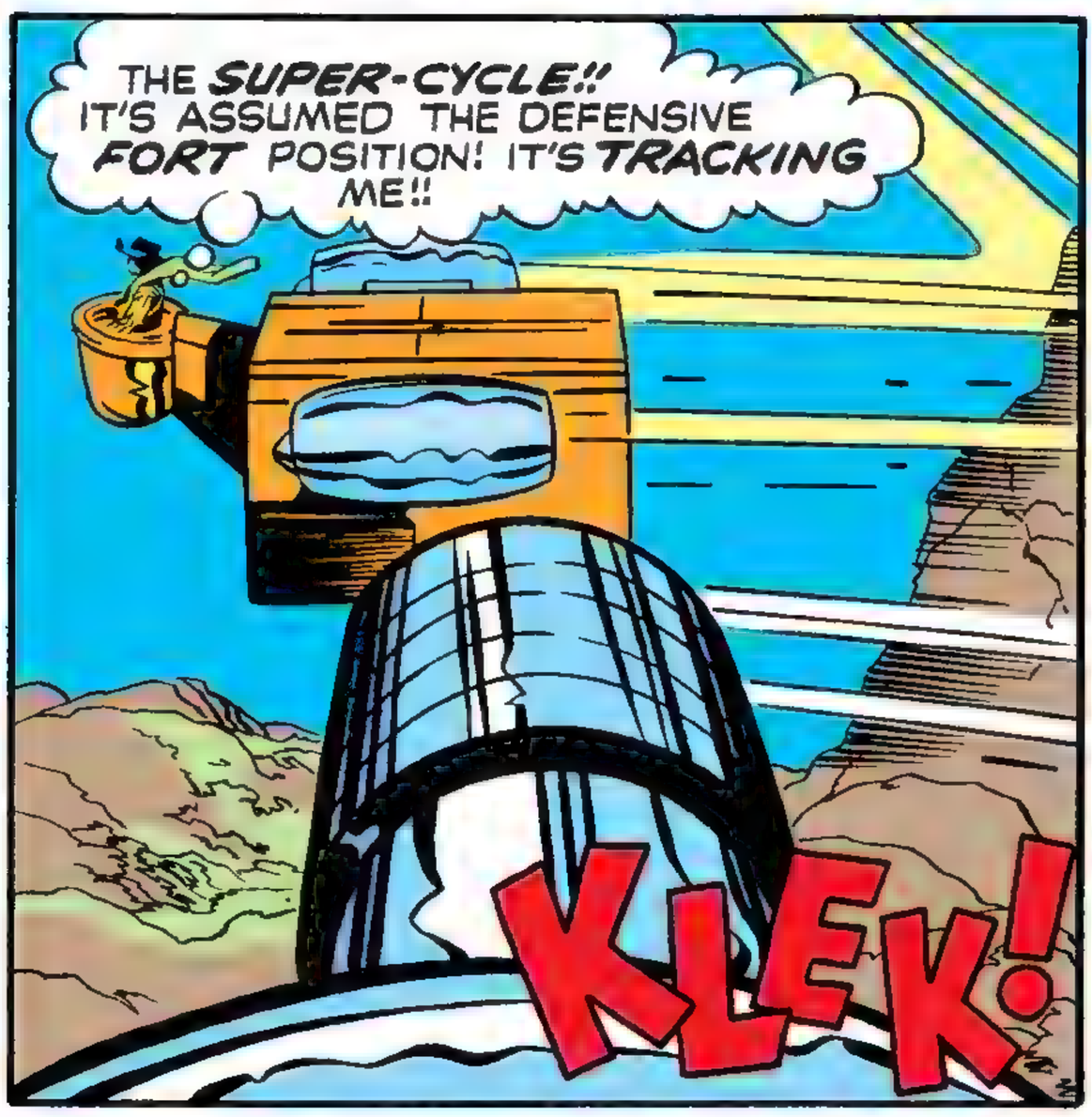
IT WILL INTEGRATE WITH THE DAMAGED MECHANISM AND SUBSTITUTE FOR ITS FUNCTION!!

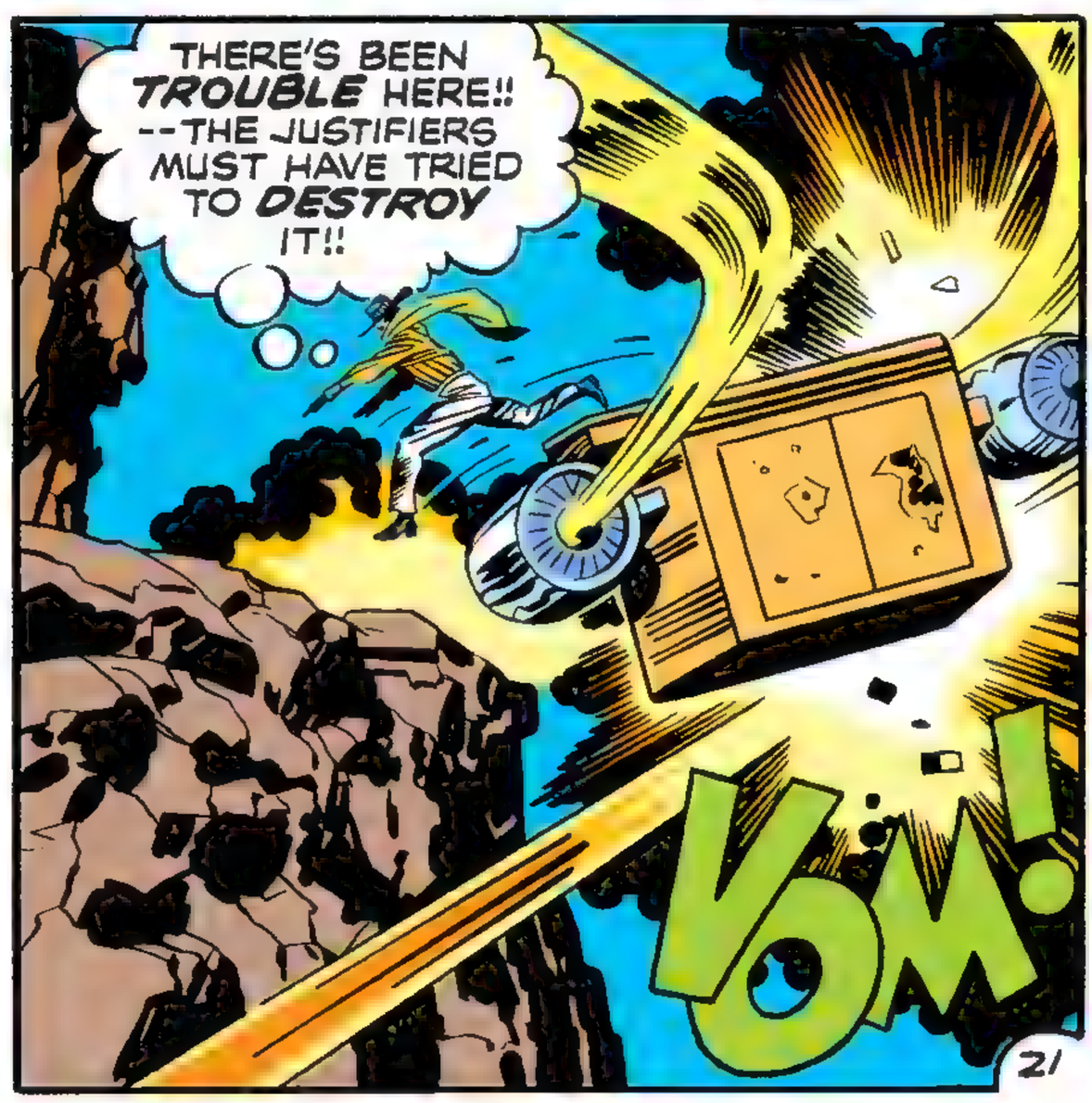
SUDDENLY!!
OKAY! WHOEVER'S IN HERE--FREEZE!!
20

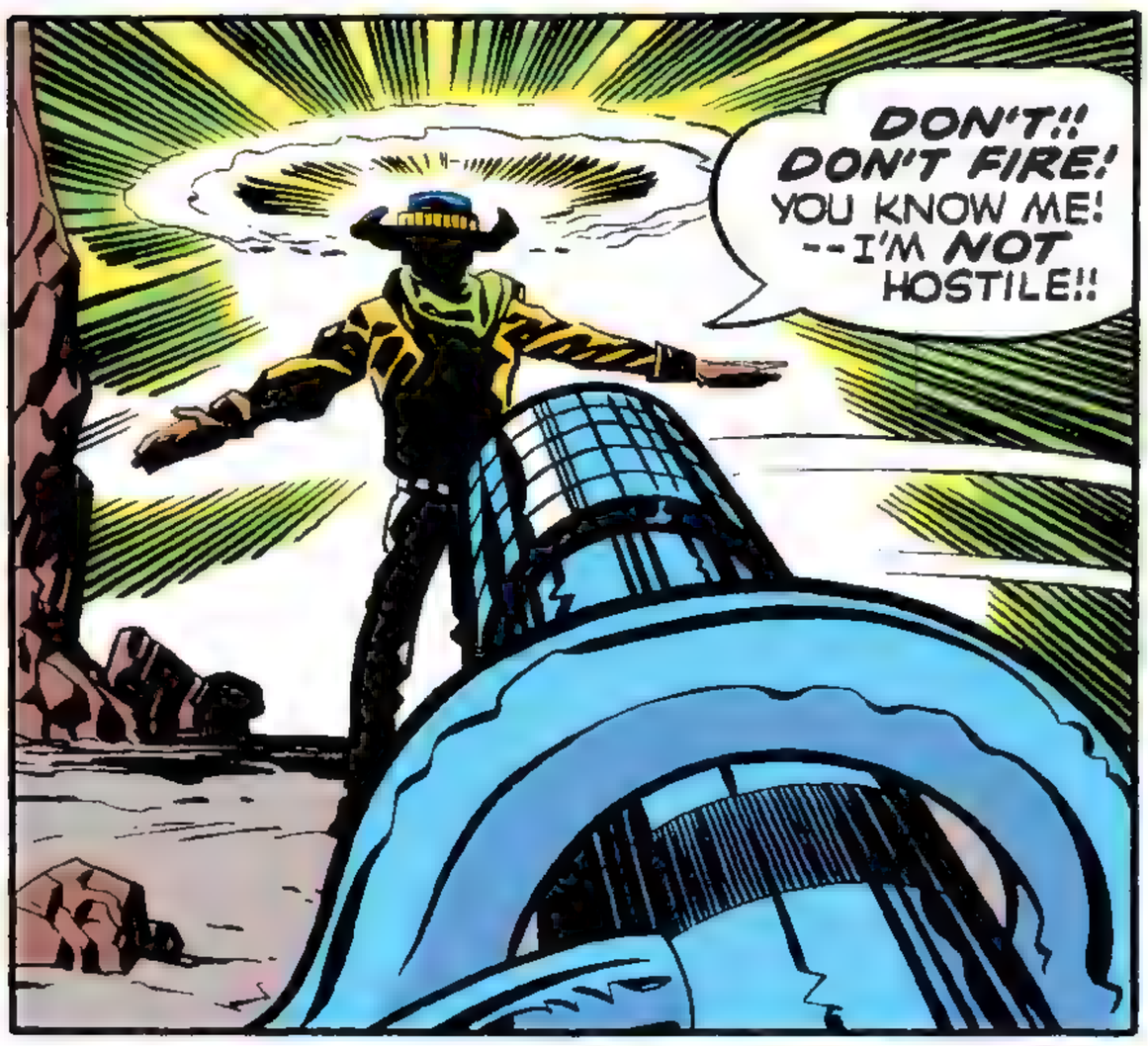
HOLD IT! COME BACK OR---
WE'LL STOP HIM!! WE'VE GOT HELICOPTERS IN THE AREA!!

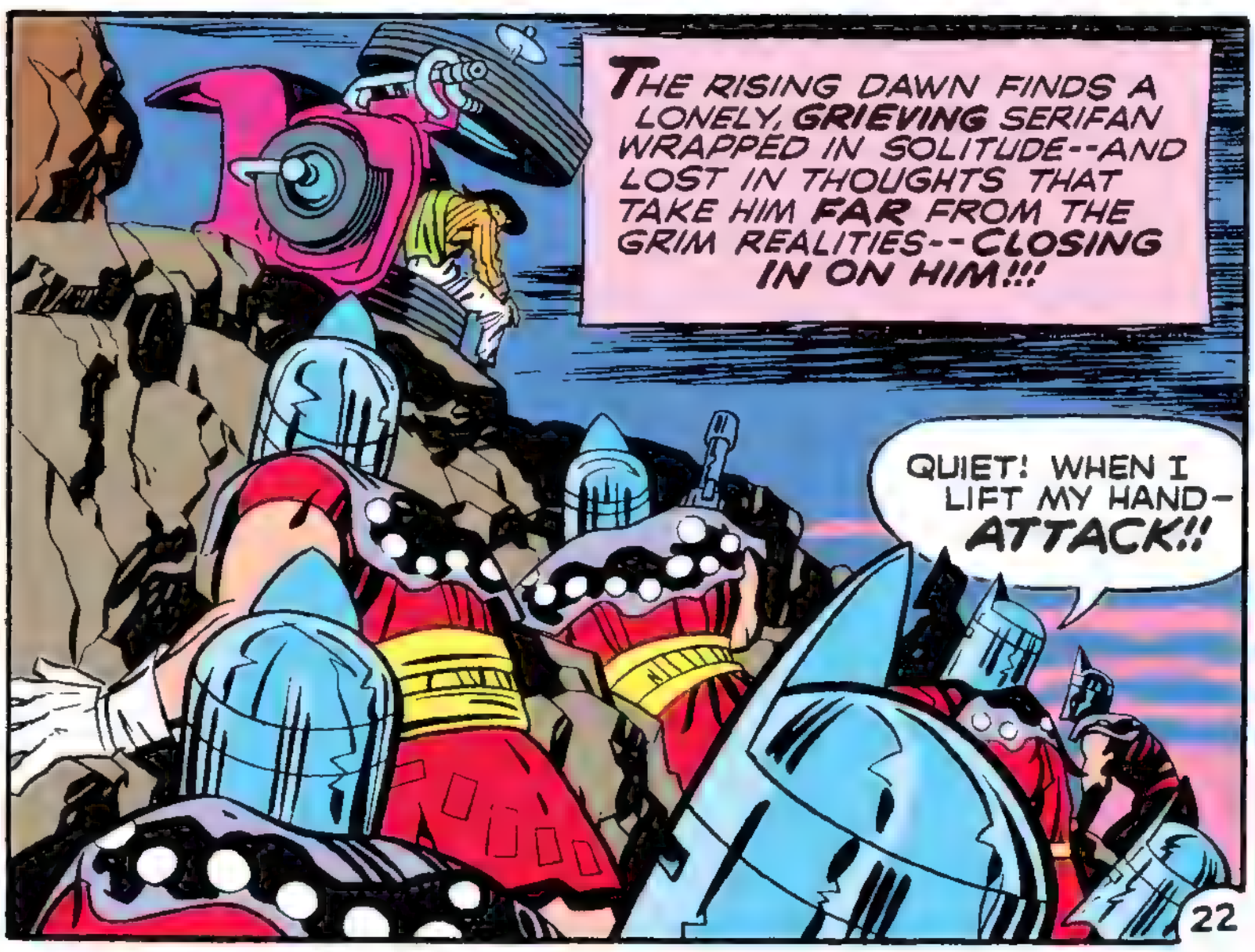

BUT NO FLYING VEHICLE MADE ON EARTH CAN OVERTAKE AN OBJECT THAT SPEEDS IN THE ELECTRON STREAM!-- STILL UNDISCOVERED--AND NEVER TRAVELED--HERE!!


SERIFAN HEADS TOWARD GLORIOUS GODFREY'S ENCAMPMENT--WHERE, SQUATTING ON A HILL, IS THE ONE FAMILIAR OBJECT TO WHICH HE CAN CLING!!
ZZZZZZIK
KLIK!
PING!


THE SUPER-CYCLE!! IT'S ASSUMED THE DEFENSIVE FORT POSITION! IT'S TRACKING ME!!
KLEK!


THERE'S BEEN TROUBLE HERE!! --THE JUSTIFIERS MUST HAVE TRIED TO DESTROY IT!!
BOM!
21





STAND BY FOR MORE ACTION, FRIENDS!!!

THE FOREVER PEOPLE ARE ALIVE AND WELL!!! BUT WAIT TILL YOU SEE **WHERE!!!**

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE--

"I'LL FIND YOU IN YESTERDAY!"

ANOTHER INCIDENT IN THE LIVES OF

THE YOUNG GODS OF SUPERTOWN!

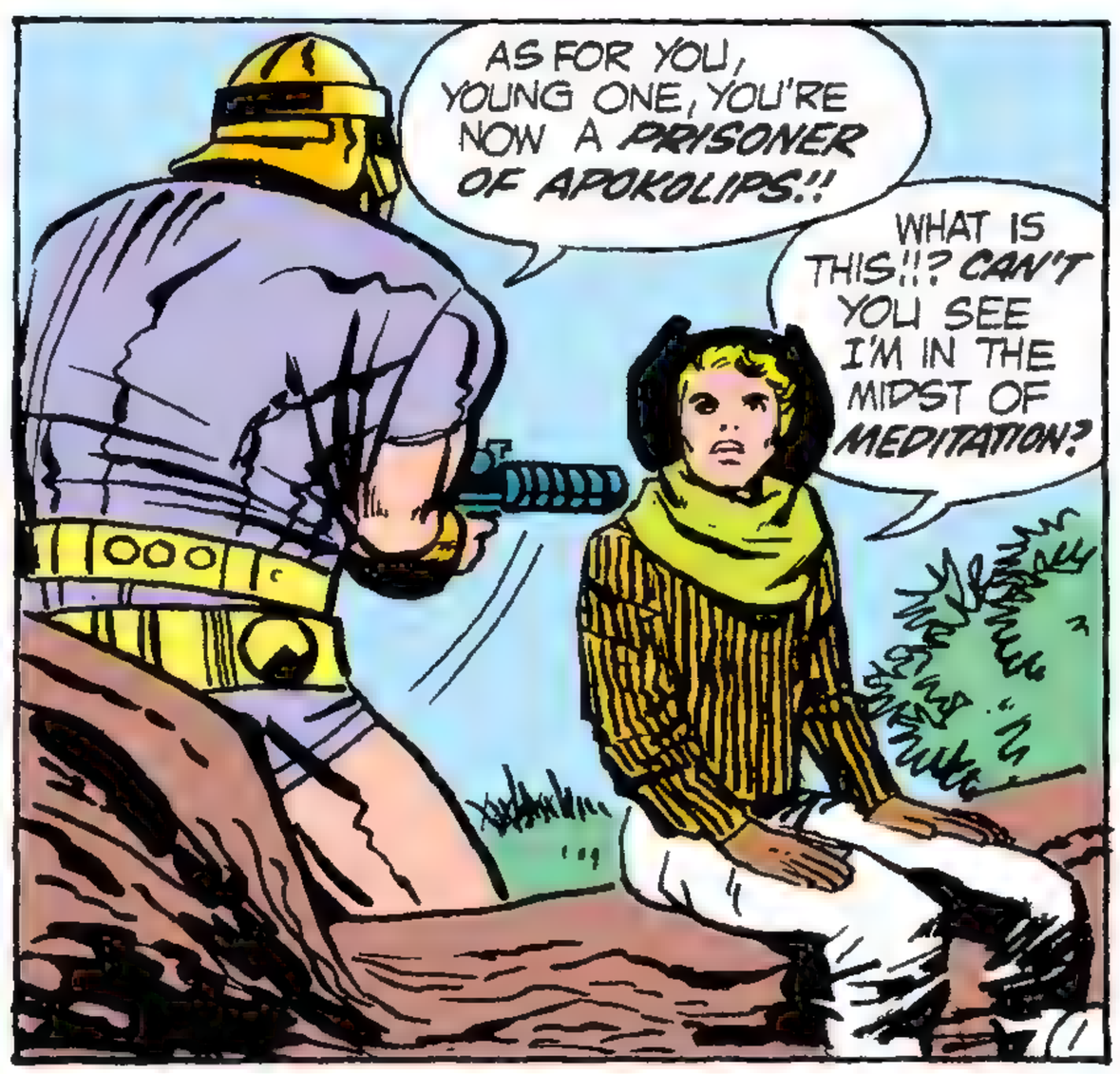
RAID FROM APOKOLIPS

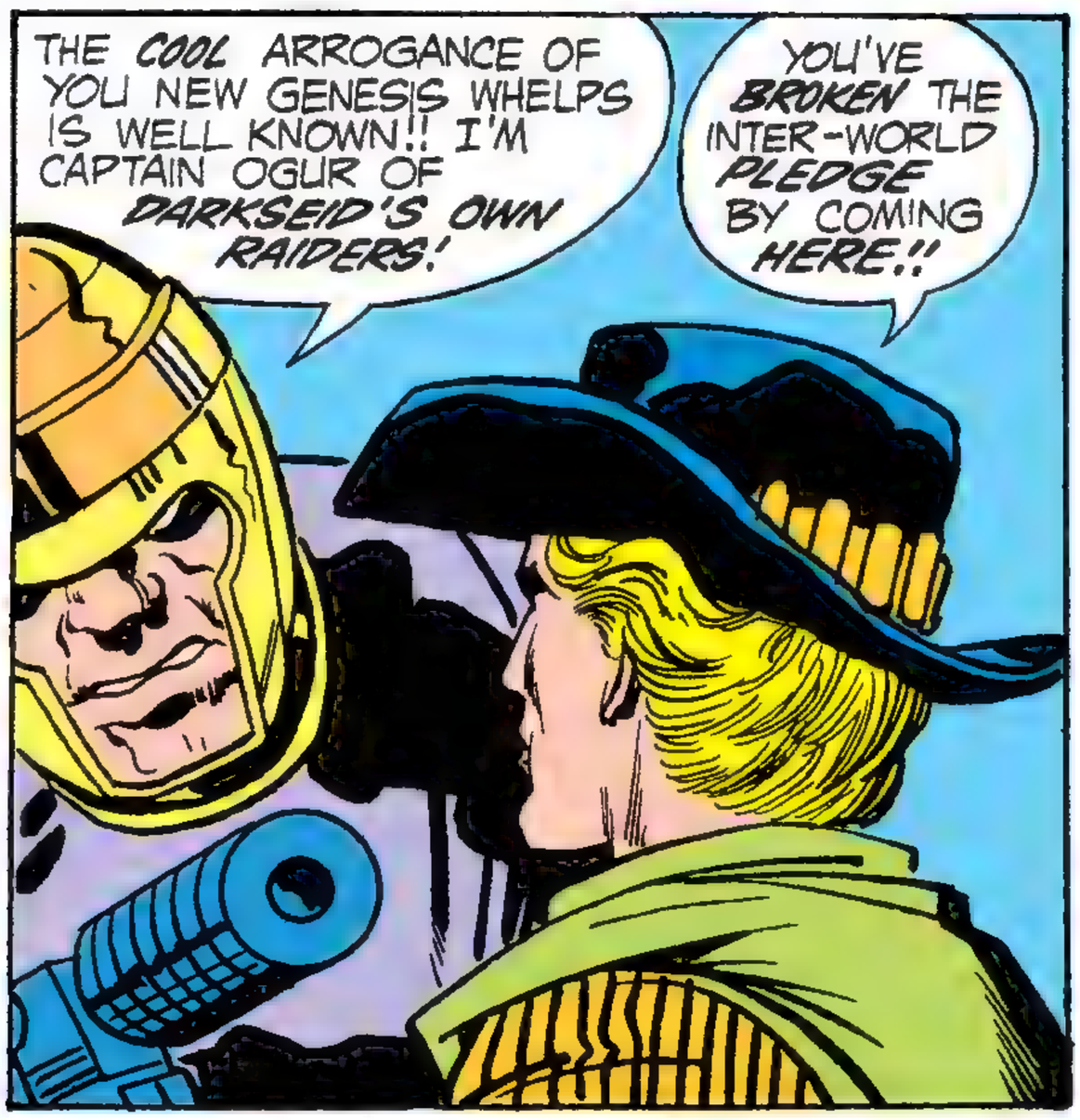
WE'VE ARRIVED ON *NEW GENESIS!* BUT ARE WE *UNNOTICED,* CAPTAIN!?

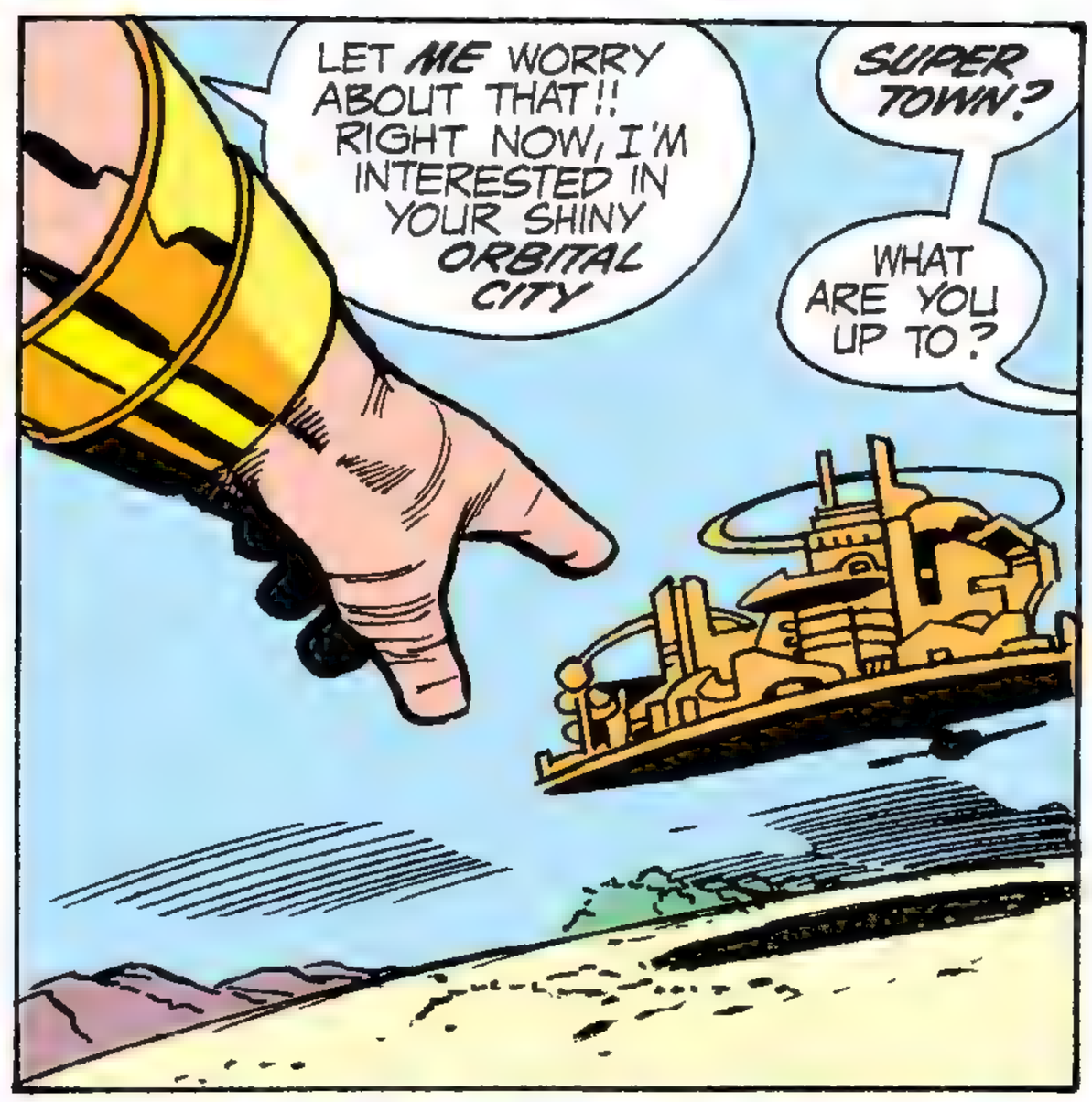
I SEE ONLY A YOUNG ONE! HE LOOKS HARMLESS ENOUGH!!

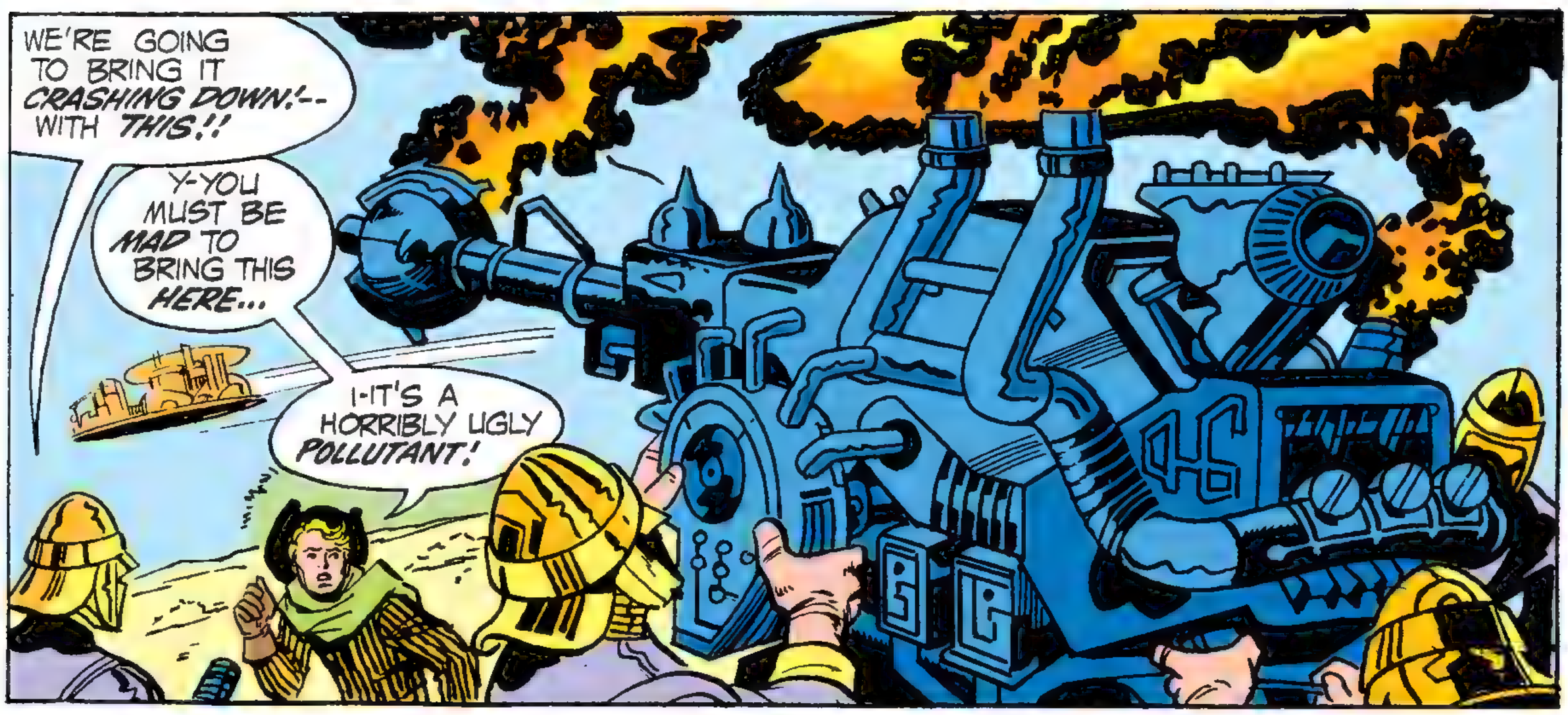
EDITED, WRITTEN & DRAWN BY *JACK KIRBY*

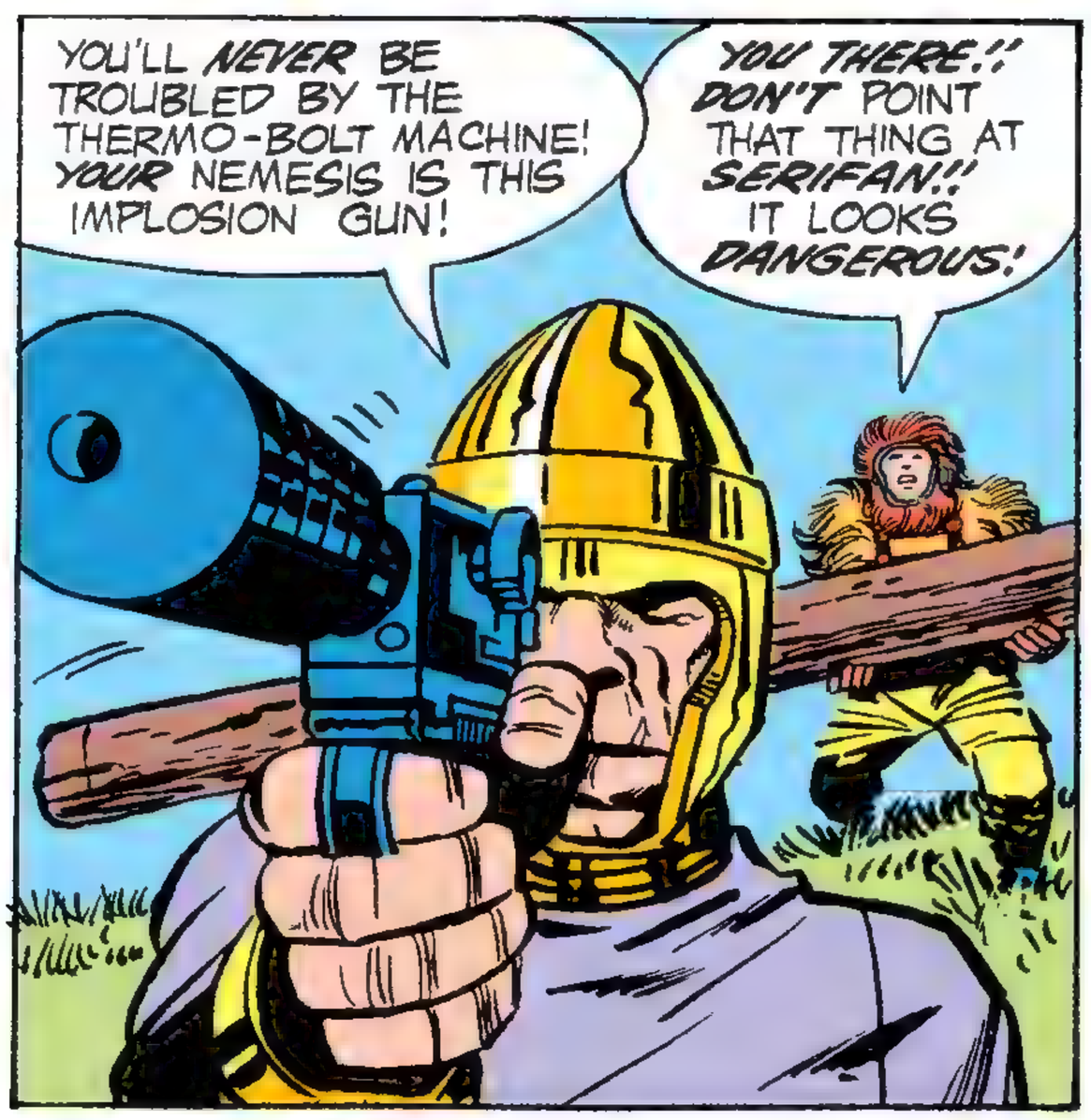
INKED BY *VINCE COLLETTA*

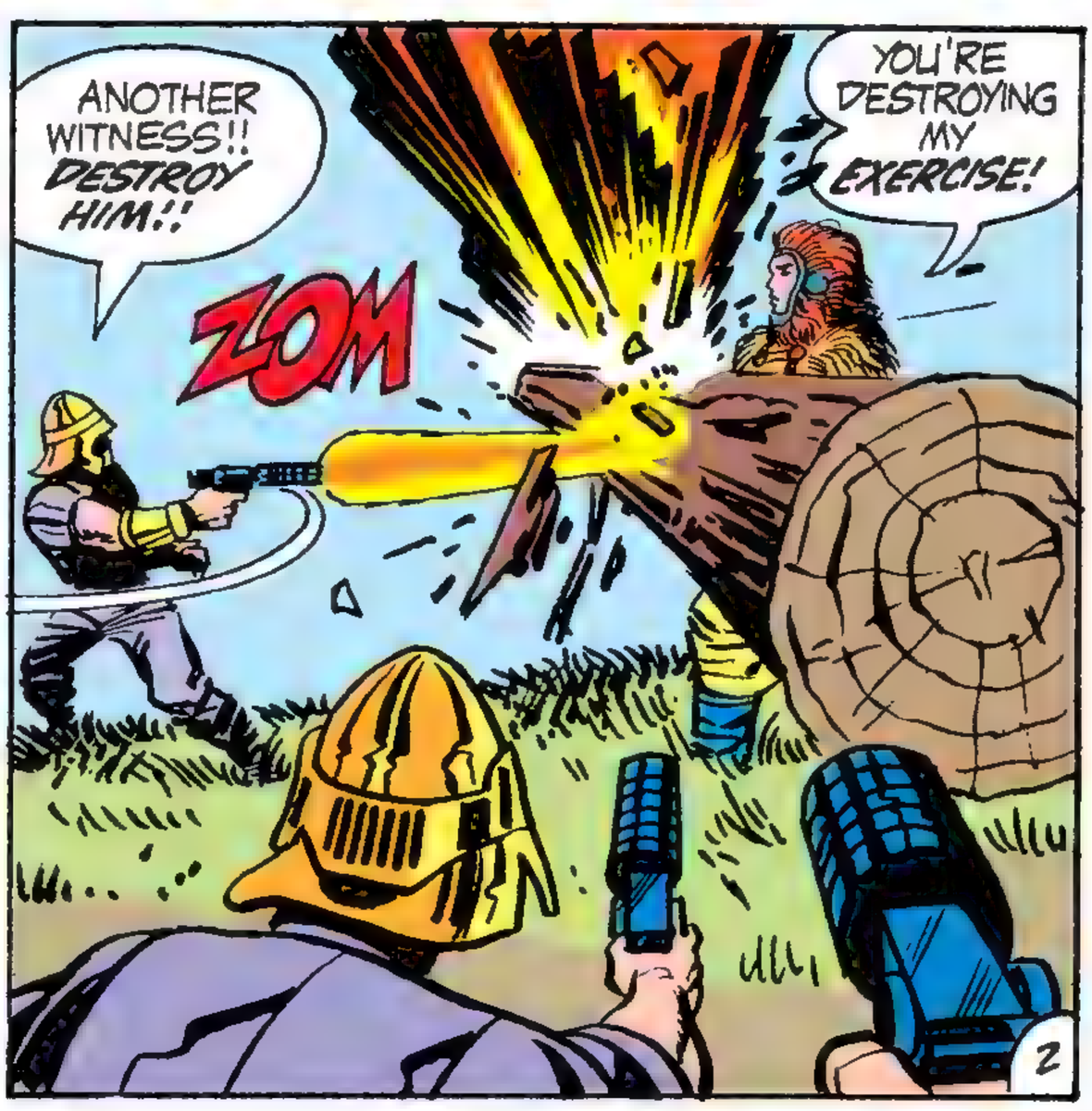


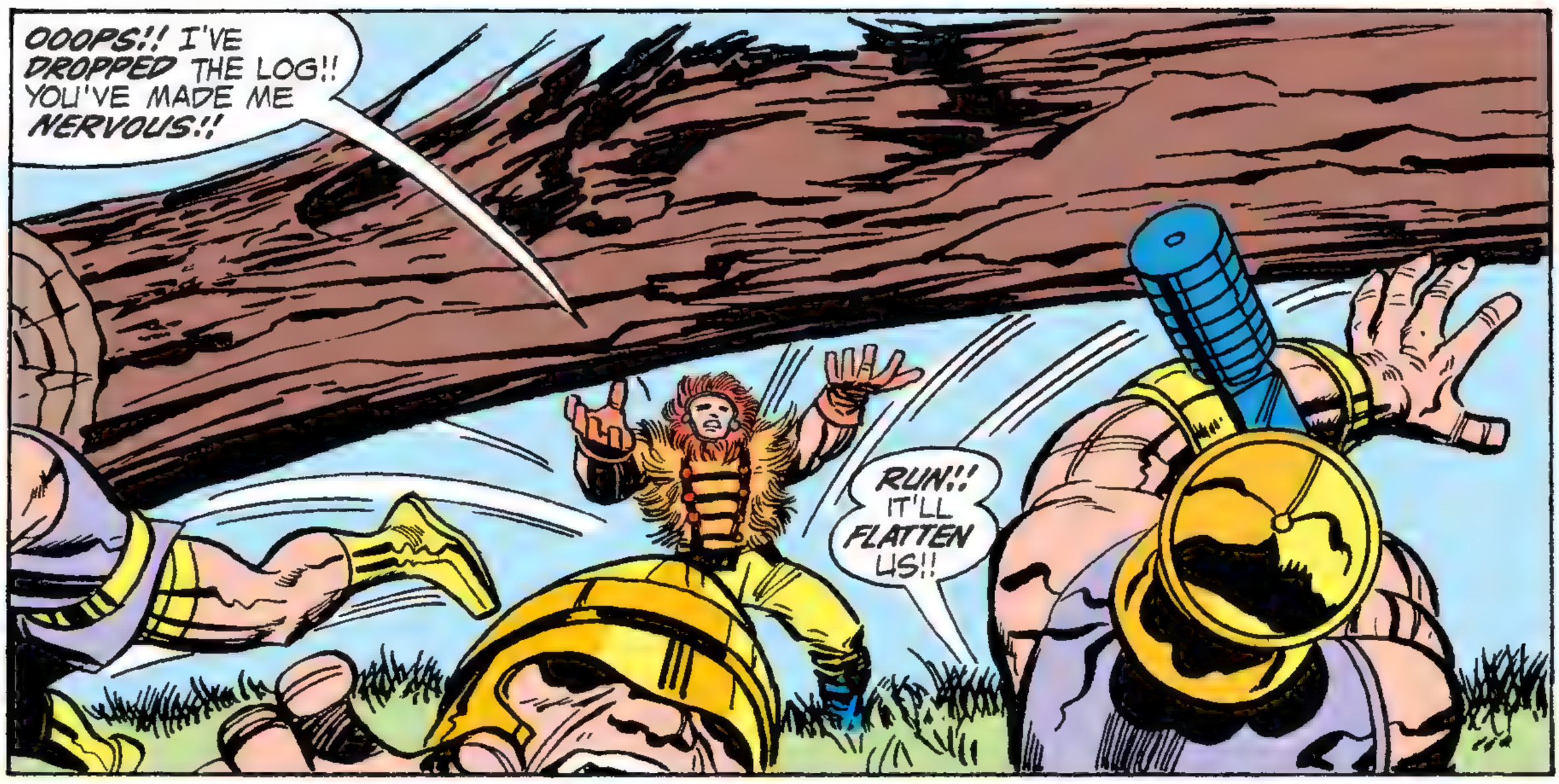

THE COOL ARROGANCE OF YOU NEW GENESIS WHELPS IS WELL KNOWN!! I'M CAPTAIN OGUR OF DARKSEID'S OWN RAIDERS!
YOU'VE BROKEN THE INTER-WORLD PLEDGE BY COMING HERE!!

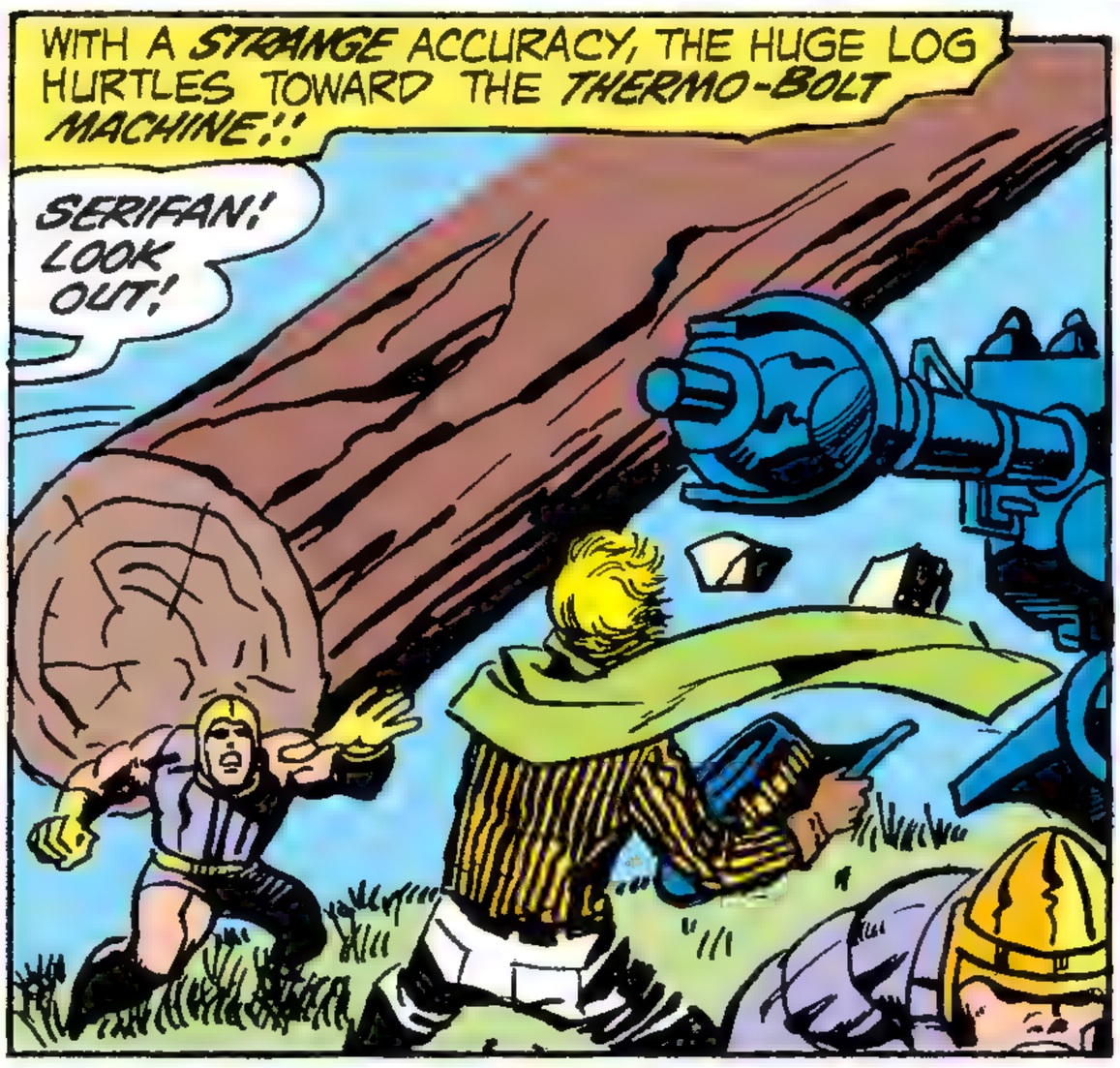

LET ME WORRY ABOUT THAT!! RIGHT NOW, I'M INTERESTED IN YOUR SHINY ORBITAL CITY
SUPER TOWN?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?


WE'RE GOING TO BRING IT CRASHING DOWN!-- WITH THIS!!
Y-YOU MUST BE MAD TO BRING THIS HERE...
I-IT'S A HORRIBLY UGLY POLLUTANT!

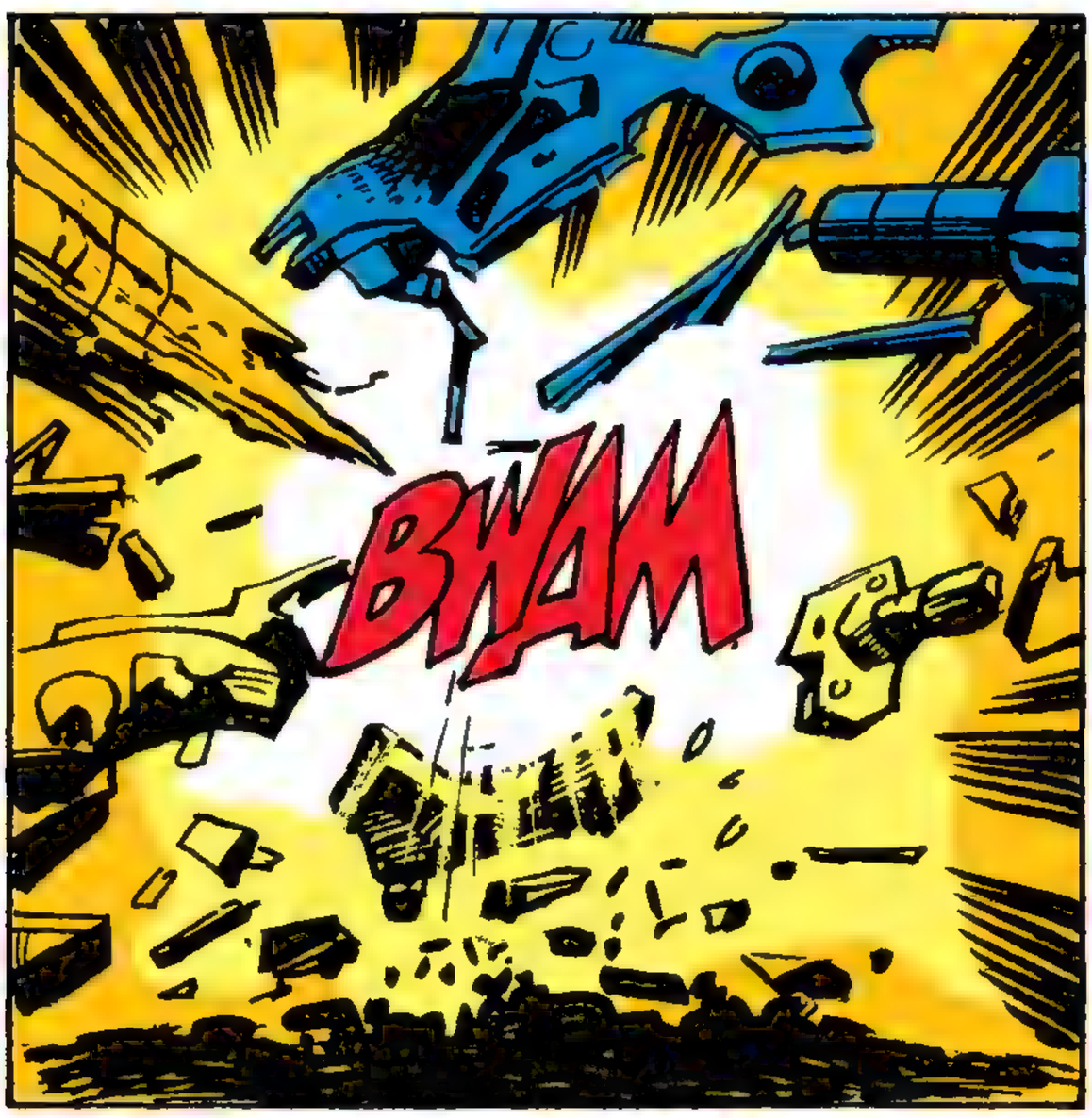

YOU'LL NEVER BE TROUBLED BY THE THERMO-BOLT MACHINE! YOUR NEMESIS IS THIS IMPLOSION GUN!
YOU THERE!! DON'T POINT THAT THING AT SERIFAN!! IT LOOKS DANGEROUS!

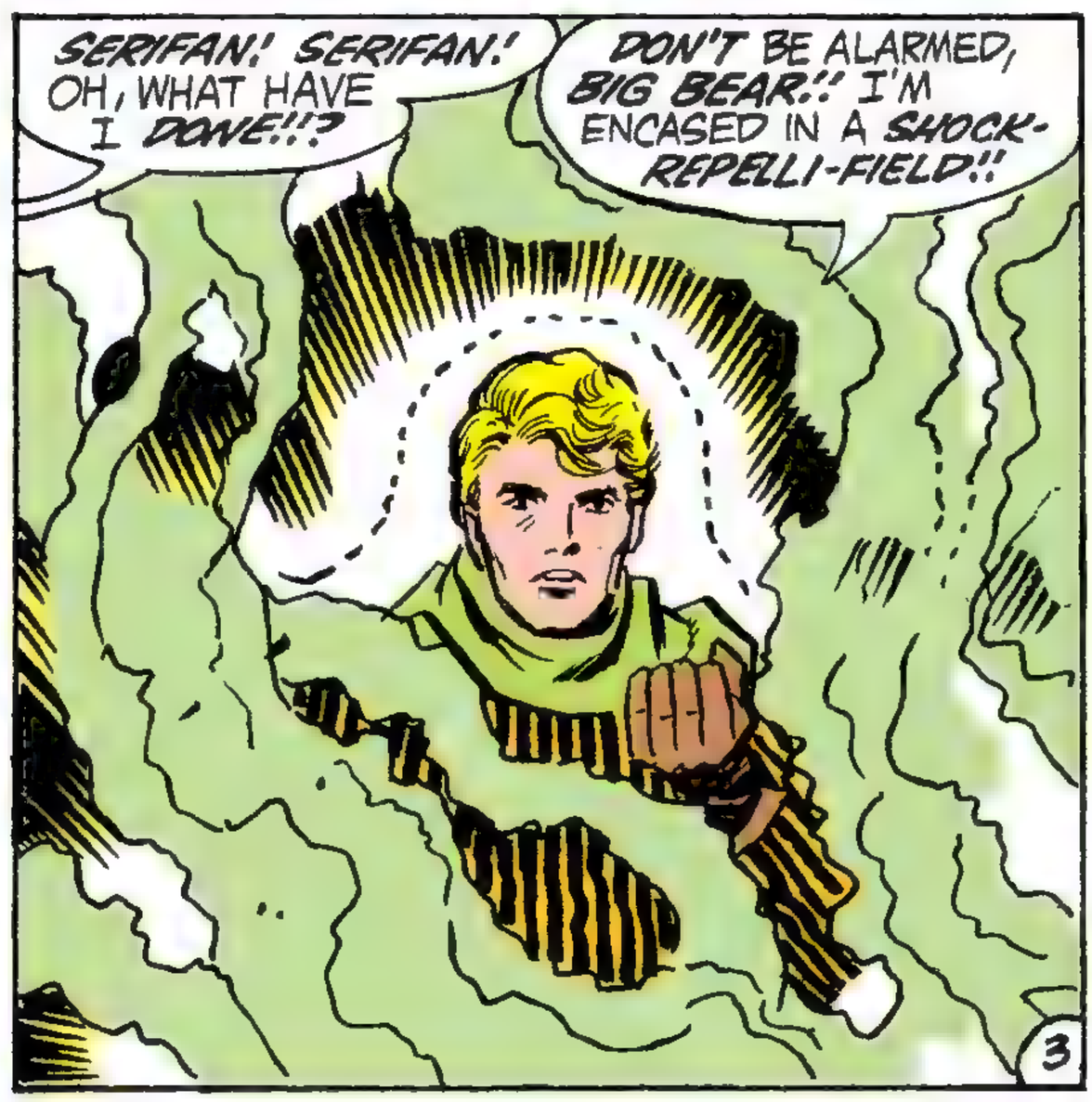

ANOTHER WITNESS!! DESTROY HIM!!
ZOM
YOU'RE DESTROYING MY EXERCISE!
2

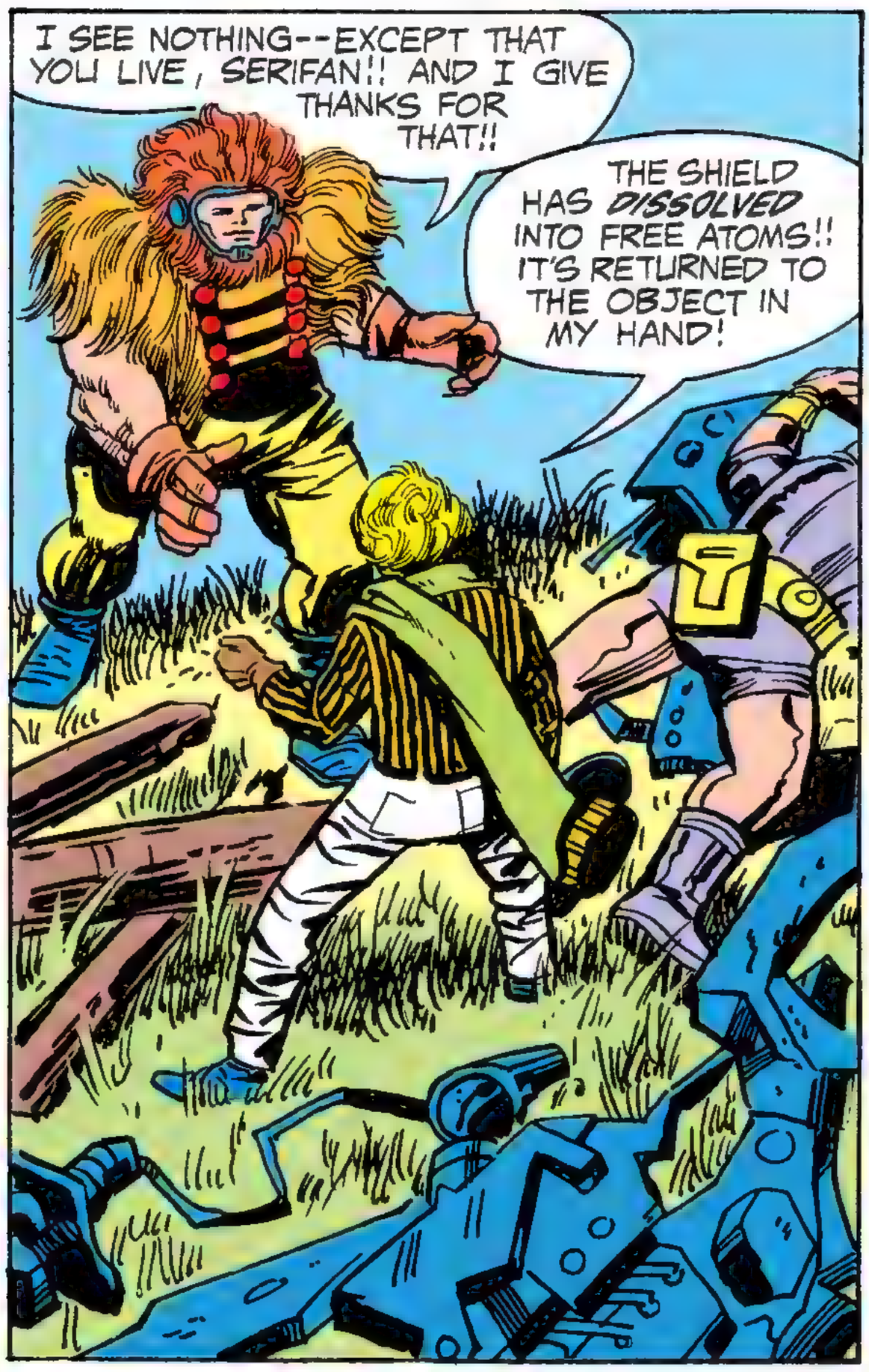

OOOPS!! I'VE DROPPED THE LOG!! YOU'VE MADE ME NERVOUS!!
RUN!! IT'LL FLATTEN US!!


WITH A STRANGE ACCURACY, THE HUGE LOG HURTLES TOWARD THE THERMO-BOLT MACHINE!!
SERIFAN! LOOK OUT!

WHEN THE LOG MAKES CONTACT WITH THAT ACTIVATED MACHINE THIS WHOLE AREA MAY GO UP!!

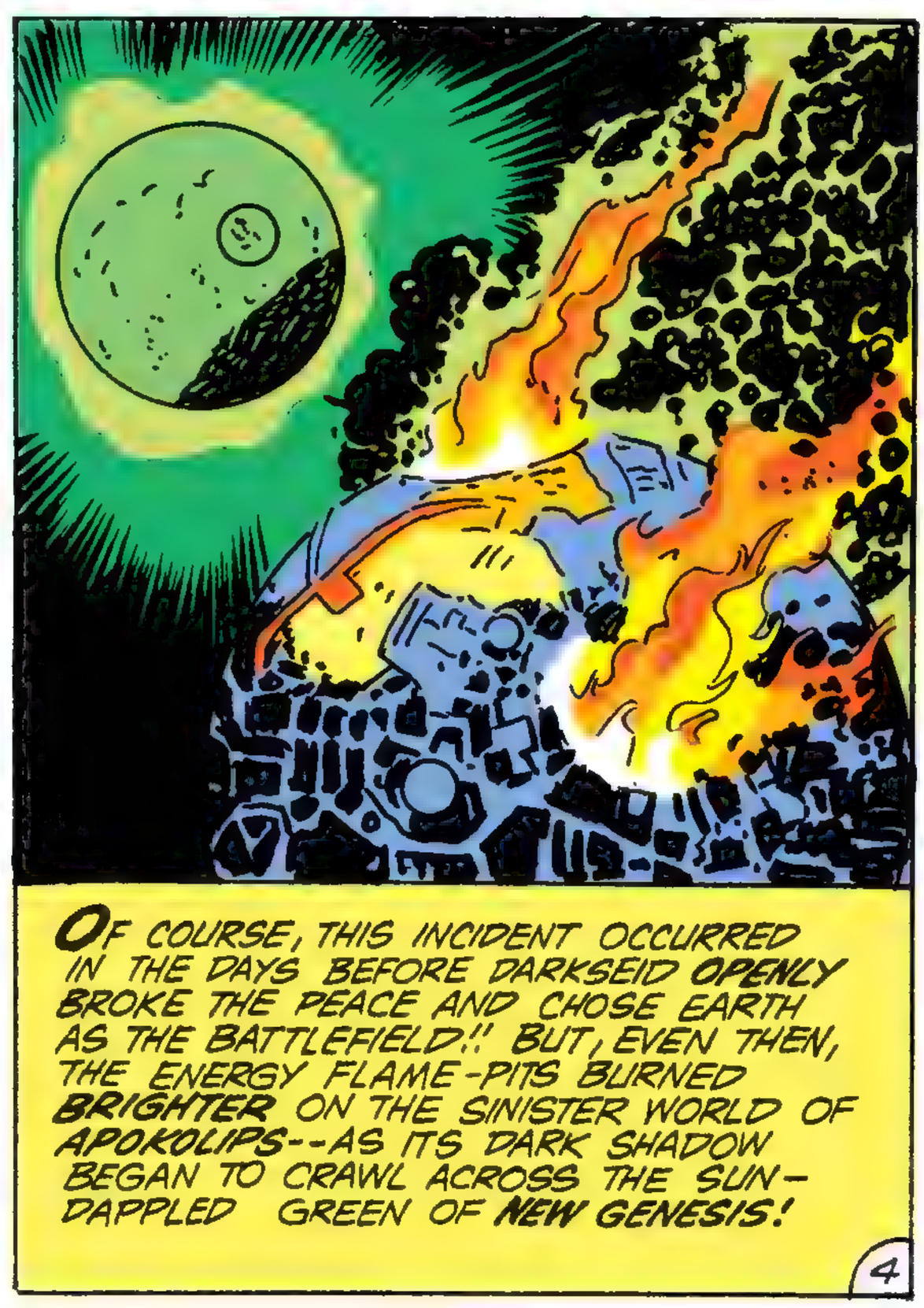

BWAM


SERIFAN! SERIFAN! OH, WHAT HAVE I DONE!!?
DON'T BE ALARMED, BIG BEAR!! I'M ENCASED IN A SHOCK-REPELLI-FIELD!!
3


I SEE NOTHING--EXCEPT THAT YOU LIVE, SERIFAN!! AND I GIVE THANKS FOR THAT!!
THE SHIELD HAS DISSOLVED INTO FREE ATOMS!! IT'S RETURNED TO THE OBJECT IN MY HAND!

A COSMIC-CARTRIDGE, YOU BIG HUMBUG!! I HAD TIME TO REMOVE THE RIGHT ONE FROM MY HAT BAND!! I'M NOT WITHOUT DEFENSE!!
HOW PURE AND PROTECTIVE ARE THE PRODUCTS OF NEW GENESIS!!

AS FOR OUR FOUL VIOLATORS OF THE PEACE, THEY SLEEP IN SHOCK OF THEIR OWN MAKING!!
THERE MAY BE MORE RAIDS, BIG BEAR!! I FEAR WE MAY SOON SEE A TIME OF GREAT TRIAL!!


OF COURSE, THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED IN THE DAYS BEFORE DARKSEID OPENLY BROKE THE PEACE AND CHOSE EARTH AS THE BATTLEFIELD!! BUT, EVEN THEN, THE ENERGY FLAME-PITS BURNED BRIGHTER ON THE SINISTER WORLD OF APOKOLIPS--AS ITS DARK SHADOW BEGAN TO CRAWL ACROSS THE SUN-DAPPLED GREEN OF NEW GENESIS!
4

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE LOST IN TIME ??? READ--

THE FOREVER PEOPLE

52 BIG pages DON'T TAKE LESS!

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

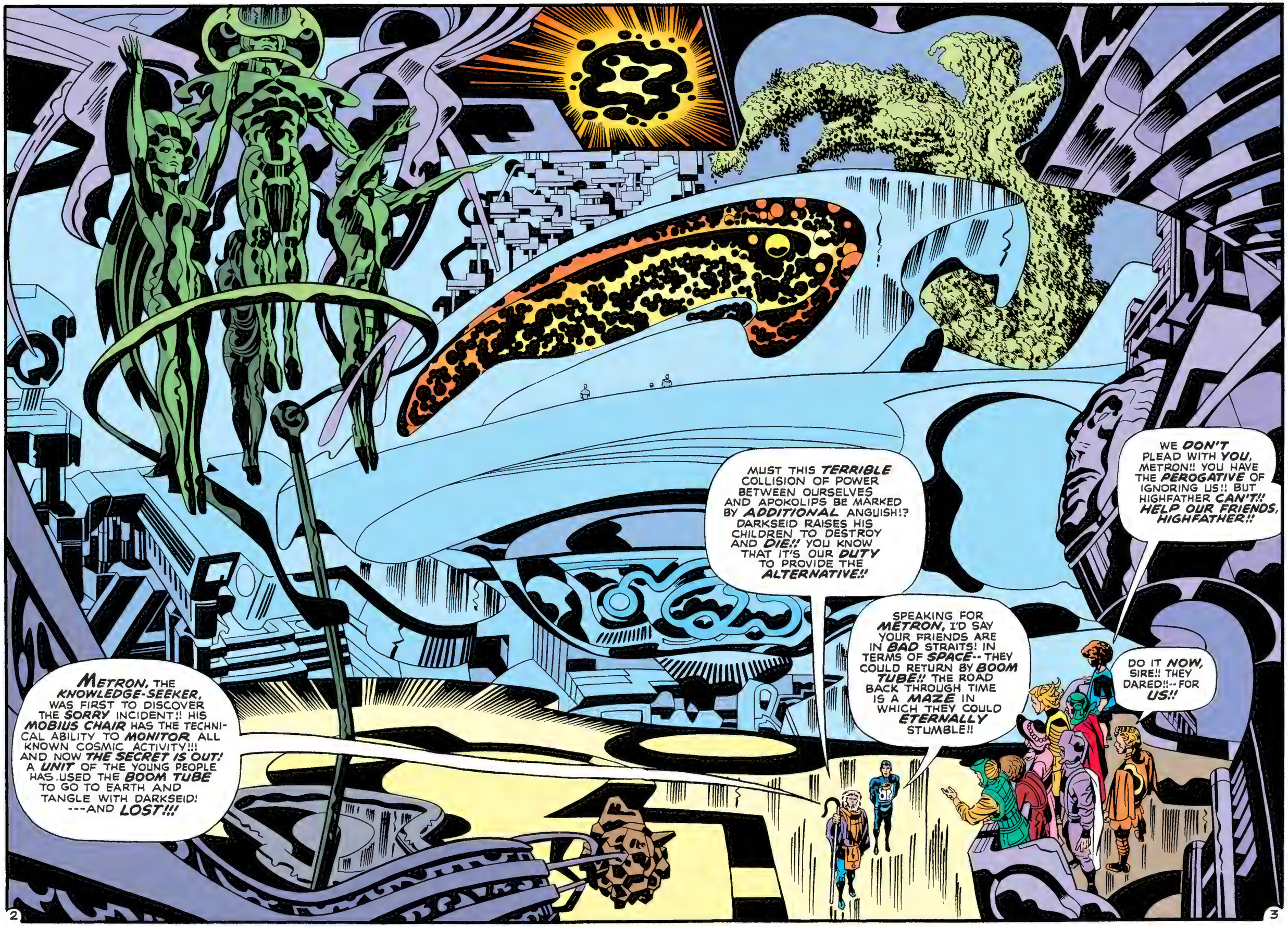
NO. 7

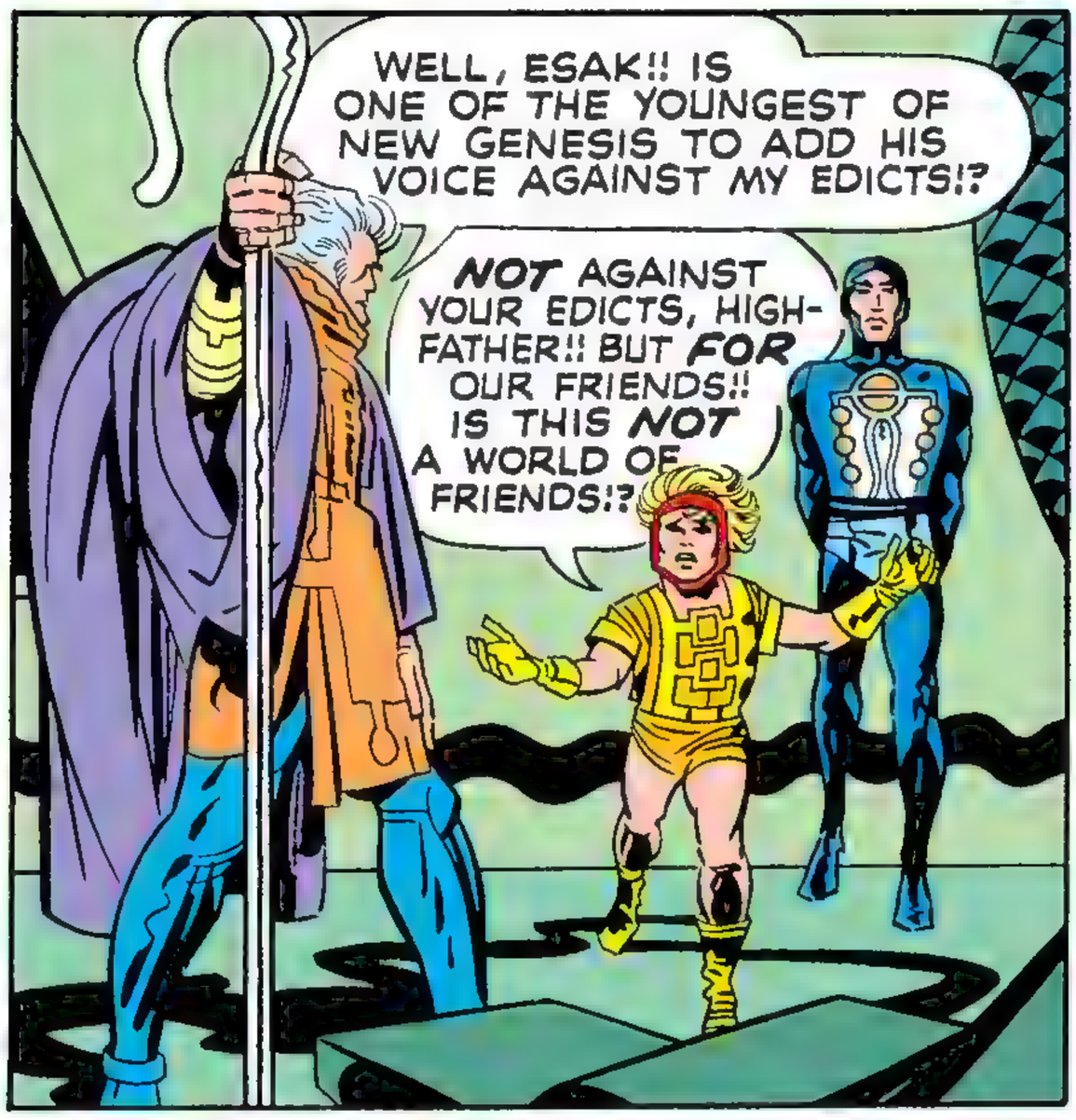
MAR.

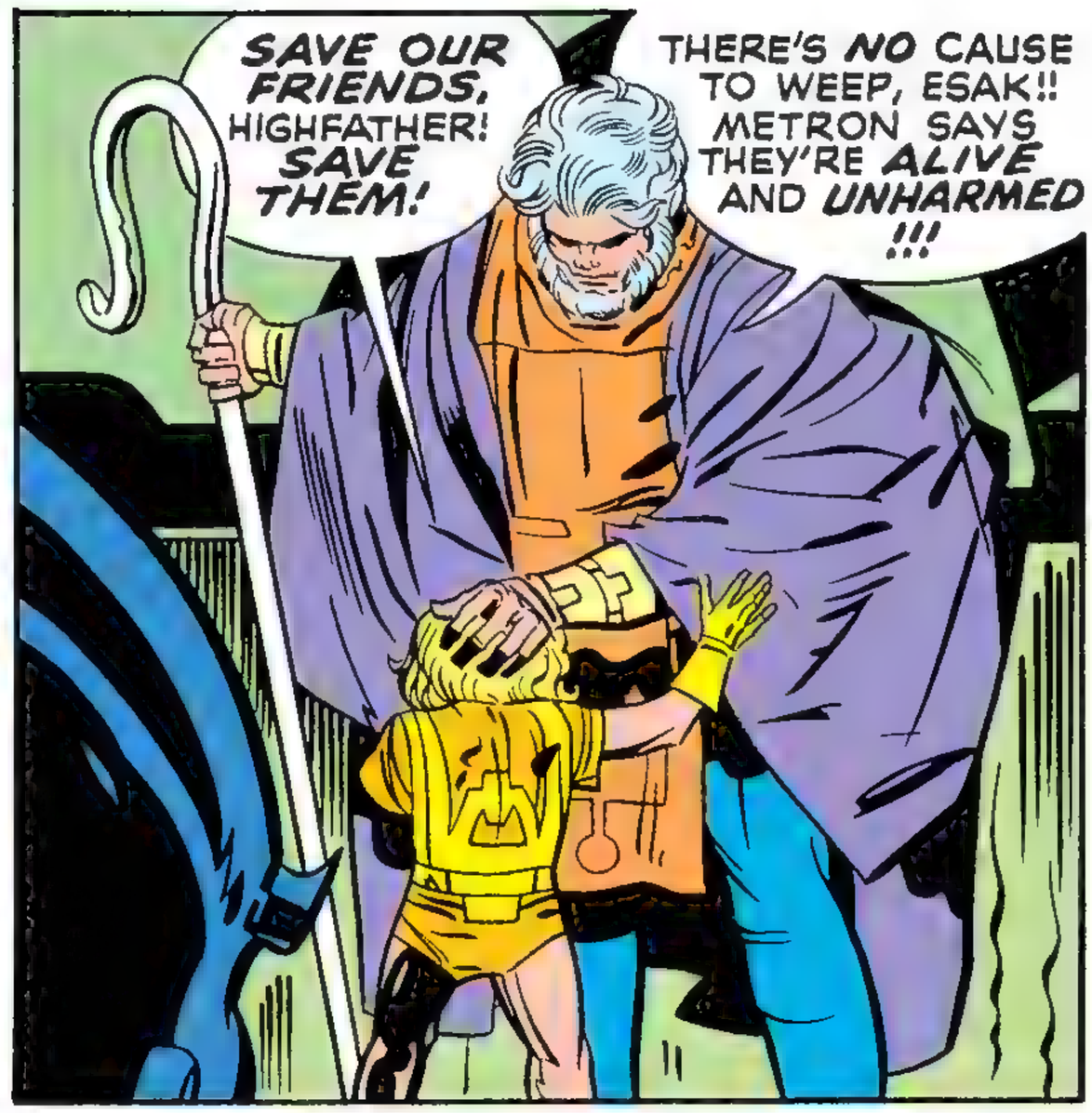
30490

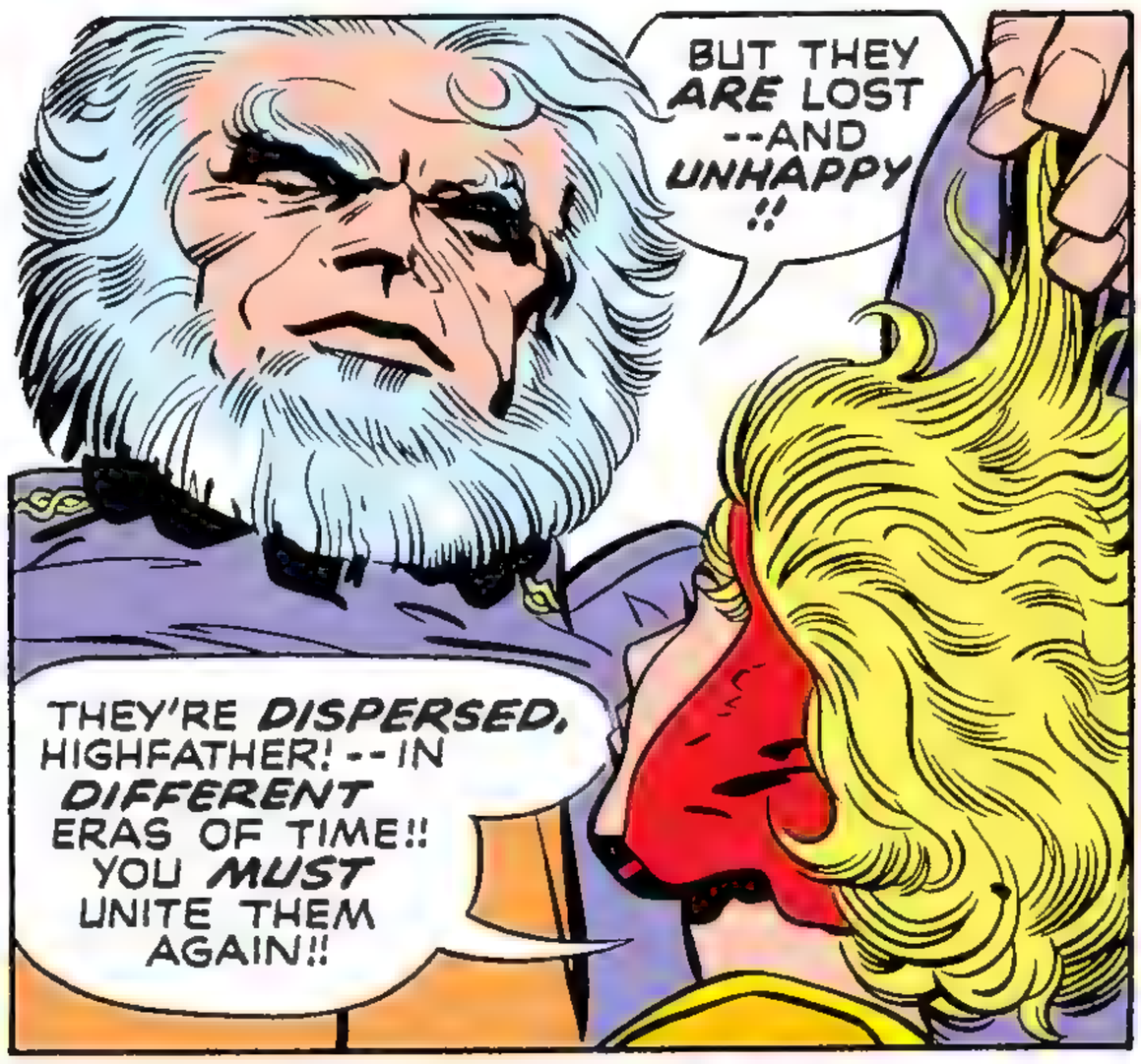
SEE THE SUPER CYCLE DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST A SAVAGE HUMAN ATTACK!

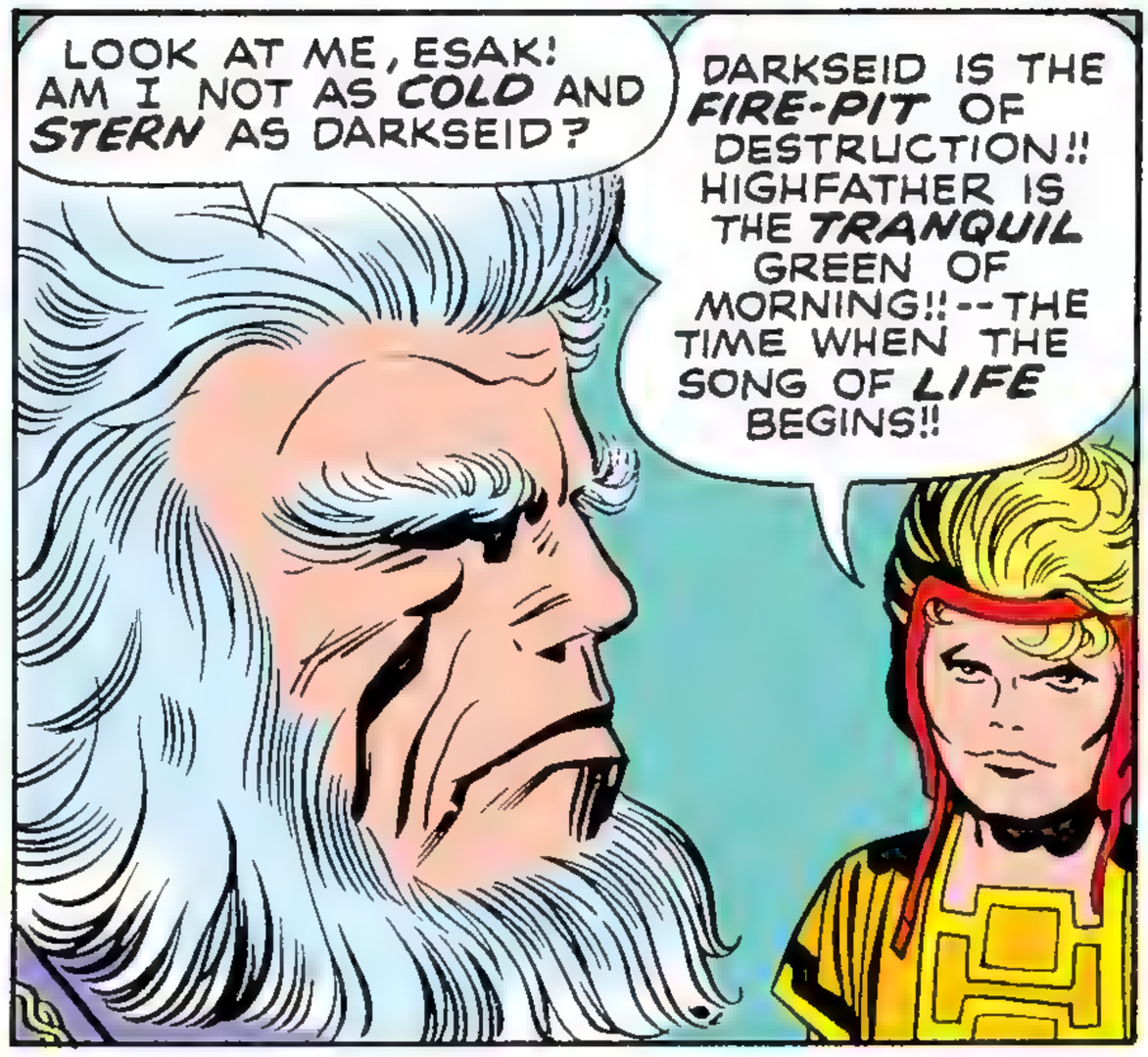
WHERE ARE THE FOREVER PEOPLE??? WHAT HAS DARKSEID, RULER OF APOKOLIPS, DONE WITH THEM? ON THE WORLD OF NEW GENESIS, THE YOUNG HAVE A VOICE! AND THIS IS THE QUESTION THEY ASK!--AND THIS IS THE PROVOCATIVE AND EXCITING THEME OF THIS SEGMENT OF AN EPIC WAR!! ---
"I'LL FIND YOU IN YESTERDAY!!"
THE COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG HAS BROUGHT ME DISTRESSING NEWS!! WHERE OUR GREATEST WARRIORS HAVE TREAD IN CAUTION--- MOONRIDER AND HIS FAMILY UNIT HAVE WILDLY RUSHED!!
SAVE THEM, HIGHFATHER!! THEY BRAVED THE ANGER OF DARKSEID HIMSELF!!
PUNISH THEM!-- BUT DON'T ABANDON THEM!!


METRON, THE KNOWLEDGE-SEEKER, WAS FIRST TO DISCOVER THE SORRY INCIDENT!! HIS MOBIUS CHAIR HAS THE TECHNICAL ABILITY TO MONITOR ALL KNOWN COSMIC ACTIVITY!!! AND NOW THE SECRET IS OUT! A UNIT OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE HAS USED THE BOOM TUBE TO GO TO EARTH AND TANGLE WITH DARKSEID! ---AND LOST!!!
MUST THIS TERRIBLE COLLISION OF POWER BETWEEN OURSELVES AND APOKOLIPS BE MARKED BY ADDITIONAL ANGUISH!? DARKSEID RAISES HIS CHILDREN TO DESTROY AND DIE!! YOU KNOW THAT IT'S OUR DUTY TO PROVIDE THE ALTERNATIVE!!
SPEAKING FOR METRON, I'D SAY YOUR FRIENDS ARE IN BAD STRAITS! IN TERMS OF SPACE-- THEY COULD RETURN BY BOOM TUBE!! THE ROAD BACK THROUGH TIME IS A MAZE IN WHICH THEY COULD ETERNALLY STUMBLE!!
WE DON'T PLEAD WITH YOU, METRON!! YOU HAVE THE PEROGATIVE OF IGNORING US!! BUT HIGHFATHER CAN'T!! HELP OUR FRIENDS, HIGHFATHER!!
DO IT NOW, SIRE!! THEY DARED!!-- FOR US!!
2
3


WELL, ESAK!! IS ONE OF THE YOUNGEST OF NEW GENESIS TO ADD HIS VOICE AGAINST MY EDICTS!?
NOT AGAINST YOUR EDICTS, HIGH-FATHER!! BUT FOR OUR FRIENDS!! IS THIS NOT A WORLD OF FRIENDS!?


SAVE OUR FRIENDS, HIGHFATHER! SAVE THEM!
THERE'S NO CAUSE TO WEEP, ESAK!! METRON SAYS THEY'RE ALIVE AND UNHARMED !!!


BUT THEY ARE LOST --AND UNHAPPY !!
THEY'RE DISPERSED, HIGHFATHER! --IN DIFFERENT ERAS OF TIME!! YOU MUST UNITE THEM AGAIN!!


LOOK AT ME, ESAK! AM I NOT AS COLD AND STERN AS DARKSEID?
DARKSEID IS THE FIRE-PIT OF DESTRUCTION!! HIGHFATHER IS THE TRANQUIL GREEN OF MORNING!! --THE TIME WHEN THE SONG OF LIFE BEGINS!!

AND WHAT OF POWER, ESAK!!? IS THIS NOT THE NAKED FIST OF POWER??
TRUE!-- BUT POWER TO WHICH THE LIGHTNING DANCES!!-ON THE INFINITE ROADS OF TIME!! SHOW OUR FRIENDS THE RIGHT ROAD, SIRE!!

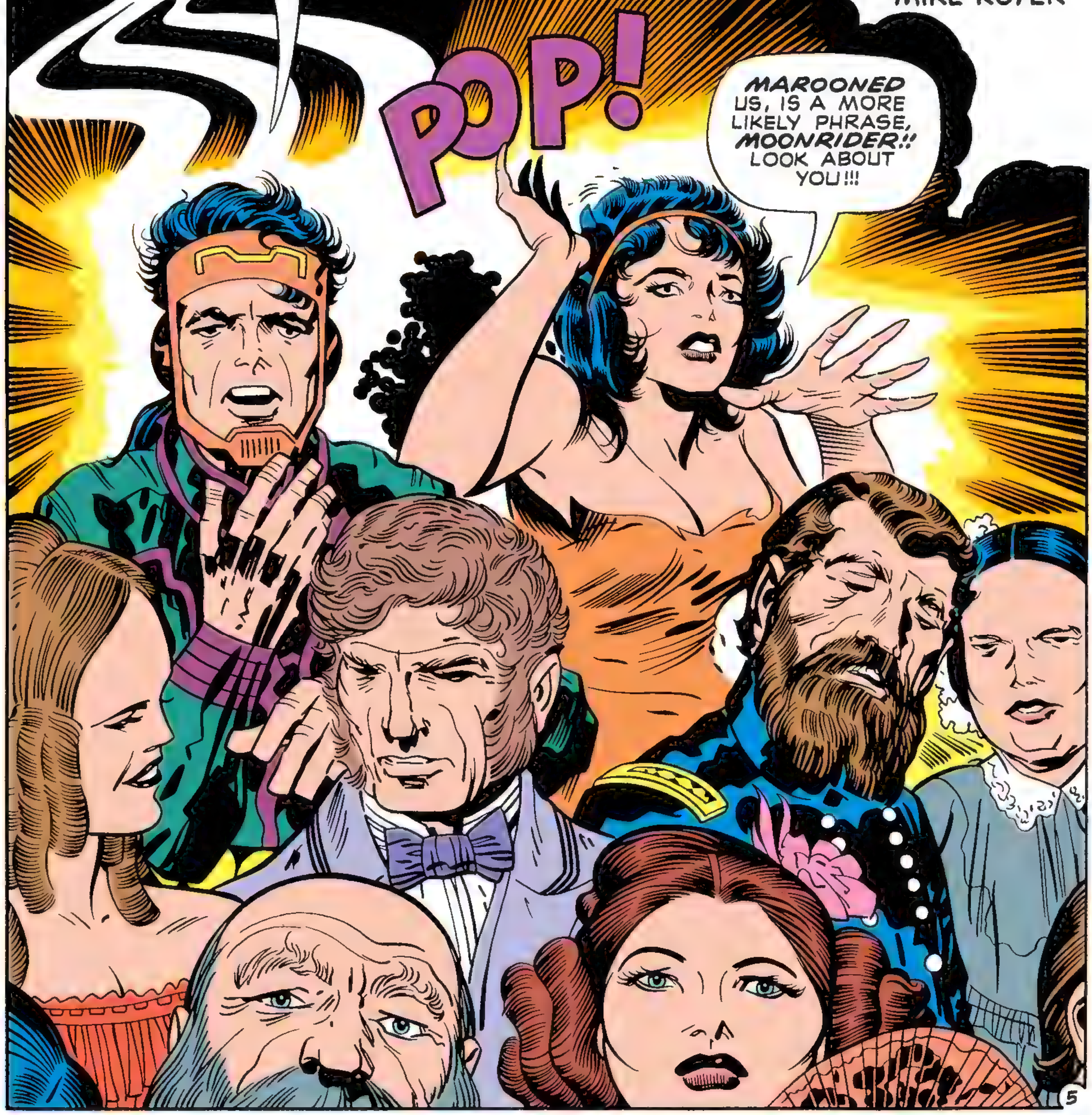
ESAK -- WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES THE VERY YOUNG --- SO VERY WISE--?
TEE HEE!! IT'S OUR DEFENSE, HIGHFATHER, --AGAINST THE VERY OLD!!
4

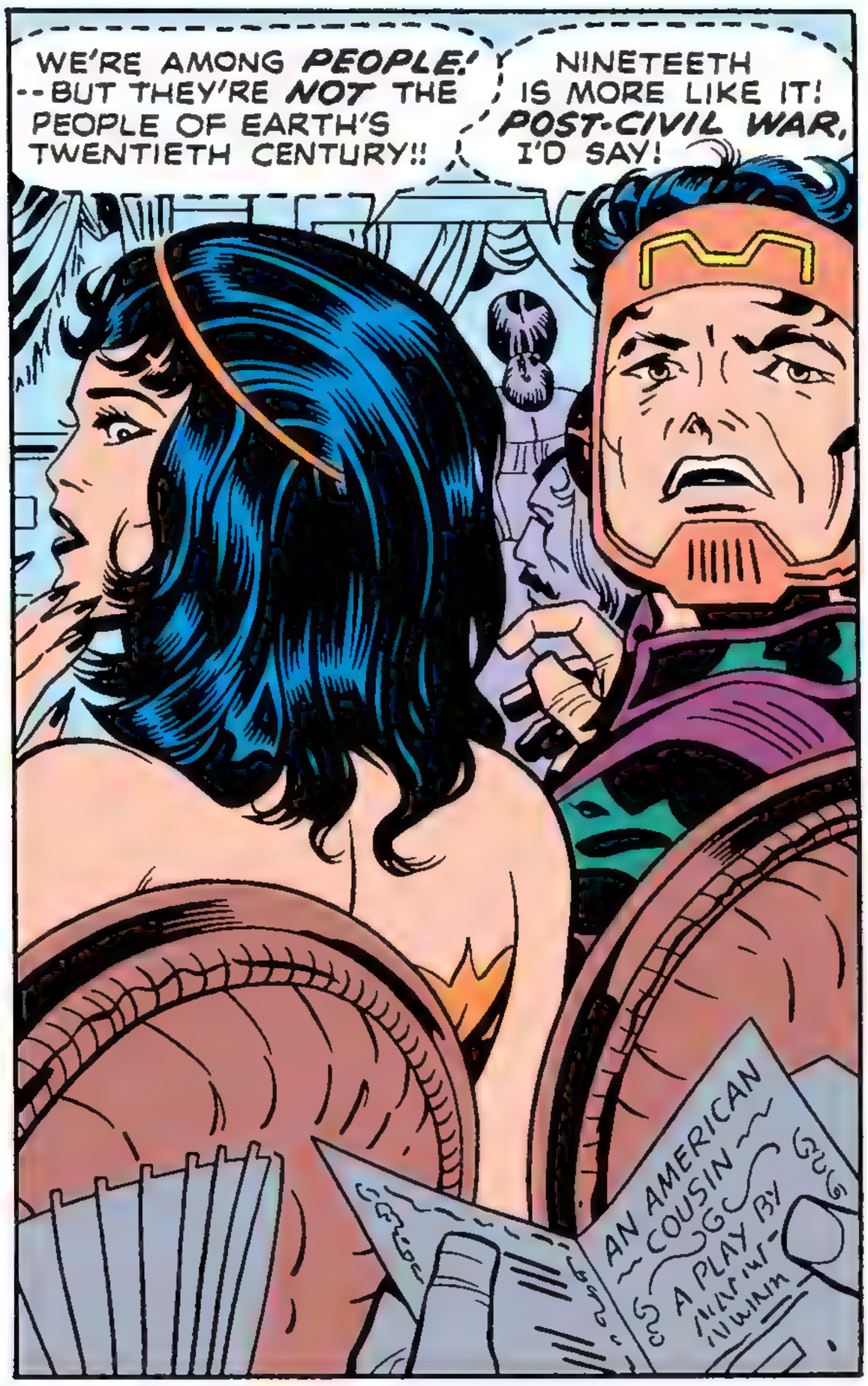
AND WHERE ARE THOSE FOOLHARDY FRIENDS OF ESAK!!?? REMEMBER THE DEVASTATING ***OMEGA EFFECT*** WHICH DARKSEID UNLEASHED IN THE PREVIOUS ISSUE?? IT WAS THE ***"TOTAL WIPE-OUT!"***--THE POWER TO ***COMPLETELY*** WIPE ANYTHING ***OUT*** OF EXISTENCE!! BUT BY ***WHIMSICAL*** MANIPULATION, DARKSEID CHOSE AN ***ALTERNATIVE!!*** HIS VICTIMS ***STILL*** EXIST!! BUT ***WHERE!!??***

WHERE ARE THE

FOREVER PEOPLE

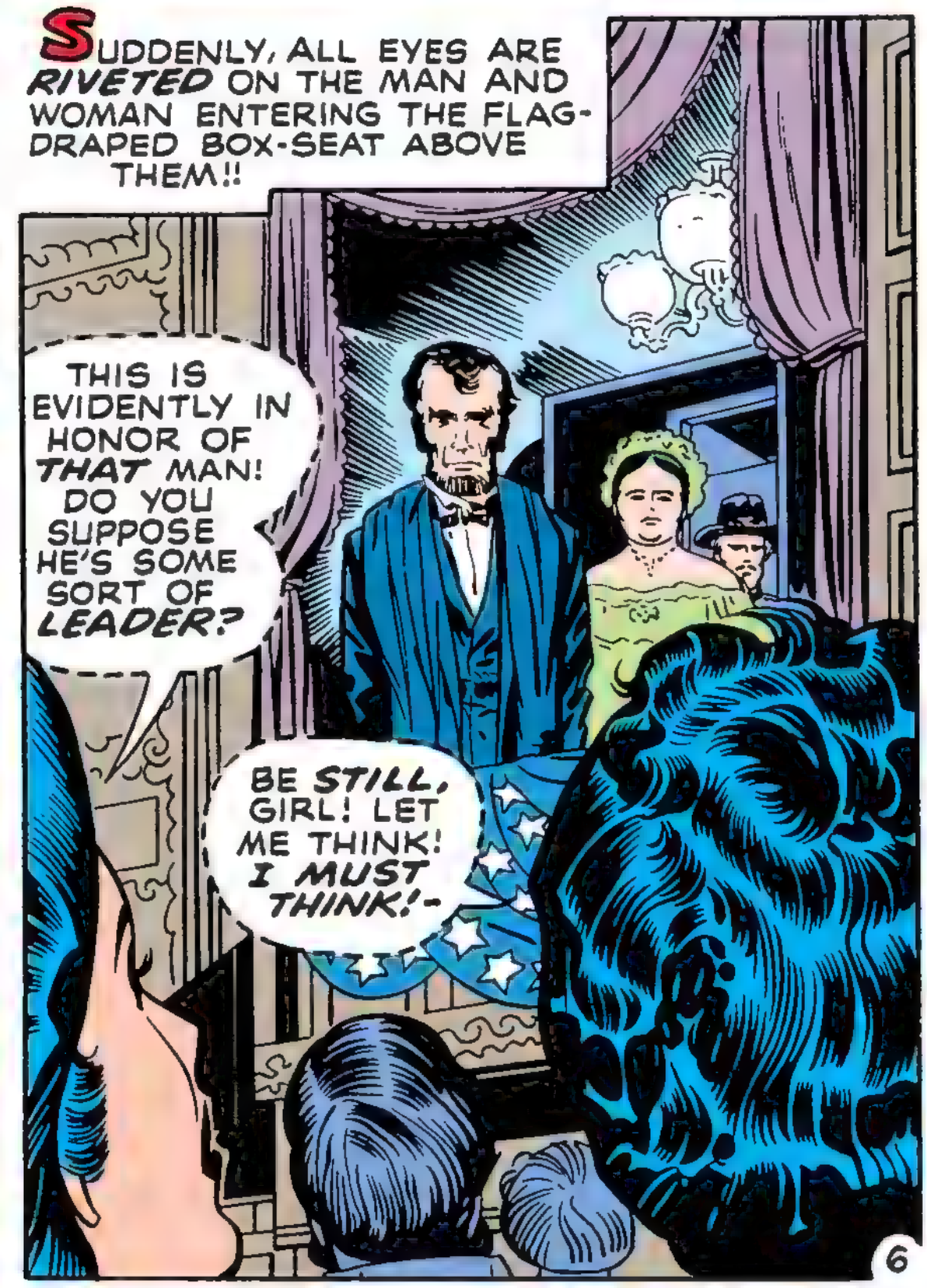
EDITED, WRITTEN, AND DRAWN BY
JACK KIRBY
INKED BY
MIKE ROYER




WE'RE AMONG PEOPLE! --BUT THEY'RE NOT THE PEOPLE OF EARTH'S TWENTIETH CENTURY!!
NINETEETH IS MORE LIKE IT! POST-CIVIL WAR, I'D SAY!
AN AMERICAN COUSIN
A PLAY BY

WE'RE IN SOME KIND OF THEATRE ATTENDED BY GUARDED NOTABLES!! I THINK IT'S WISE WE DO SOMETHING TO BLEND WITH THIS AUDIENCE!!
AGREED! I'LL CAST THE PROPER ILLUSION!

THE ORCHESTRA'S PLAYING A NUMBER OF EVIDENT NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE!! LET'S RISE WITH THE OTHERS!!
YOU LOOK HANDSOME IN THOSE ANTIQUATED CLOTHES! --EVEN IF THEY ARE AN ILLUSION!!


SUDDENLY, ALL EYES ARE RIVETED ON THE MAN AND WOMAN ENTERING THE FLAG-DRAPED BOX-SEAT ABOVE THEM!!
THIS IS EVIDENTLY IN HONOR OF THAT MAN! DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'S SOME SORT OF LEADER?
BE STILL, GIRL! LET ME THINK! I MUST THINK!-
6

SURELY AS HIGHFATHER IS MARKED BY THE TRIALS OF THE GODS, THIS MAN SEEMS SCARRED BY GRAVE TRAGEDY IN HIS TIME!! MOONRIDER, WITH EFFORT, DIGS MENTALLY INTO HIS PAST EARTH ORIENTATION STUDIES!!
BIG BEAR IS THE "HISTORY BUFF" IN OUR UNIT!! HE'D KNOW HIM AT A GLANCE!! I KNOW HIM, TOO-- YET--
HE LOOKS WISE--- AND OLD-- -- AND TIRED--

IN MY OPINION, FORD'S THEATRE IS PROPERLY BUILT FOR ACOUSTICS, MY DEAR!!
FORD'S THEATRE!! THAT'S WHERE WE ARE! THOSE ARE THE WORDS I WANTED! NOW, WITH CASUAL EASE, BEAUTIFUL DREAMER, LEAVE YOUR SEAT-- AND COME WITH ME!!
WHY? WHAT'S WRONG ?

BUT WE'LL MISS THE PLAY, MOONRIDER!! I'D LOVE TO SEE A FORE-RUNNER OF EARTH'S EVOLVING THEATRE!
YOU'LL GET TO SEE MORE THAN THAT IF WE DON'T ACT SWIFTLY!

BEGGIN' YOUR PARDON, SIR! WOULD YOU OBLIGE US BY SHOWIN' US SOME SORT OF IDENTIFICATION !!?
THAT GOES FOR THE YOUNG LADY, TOO!
JUST NORMAL PRECAUTION, MA'AM--CON-SIDERIN' THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF IS HERE!!
7

AND SOMEWHERE, STRANDED IN TIME, IS VYKIN, THE BLACK!! -- FEELING THE LOSS OF HIS FRIENDS---AND PONDERING HIS SITUATION!!

SO, THIS IS WHAT DARKSEID HAS DONE WITH THE OMEGA EFFECT!! WHERE HAVE I BEEN SHUNTED TO!!??

SUDDENLY--!!!

SEIZE THE BLACK!!

HEY! STOP THAT!! WHO ARE YOU CATS? WHY ARE YOU BEHAVING THIS WAY??

SEE THAT? YOU GOT SO VIOLENT THAT YOU BUMPED INTO MY ELBOW!

--AND, YOU,-- INTO MY HELMET!

ULK-!!

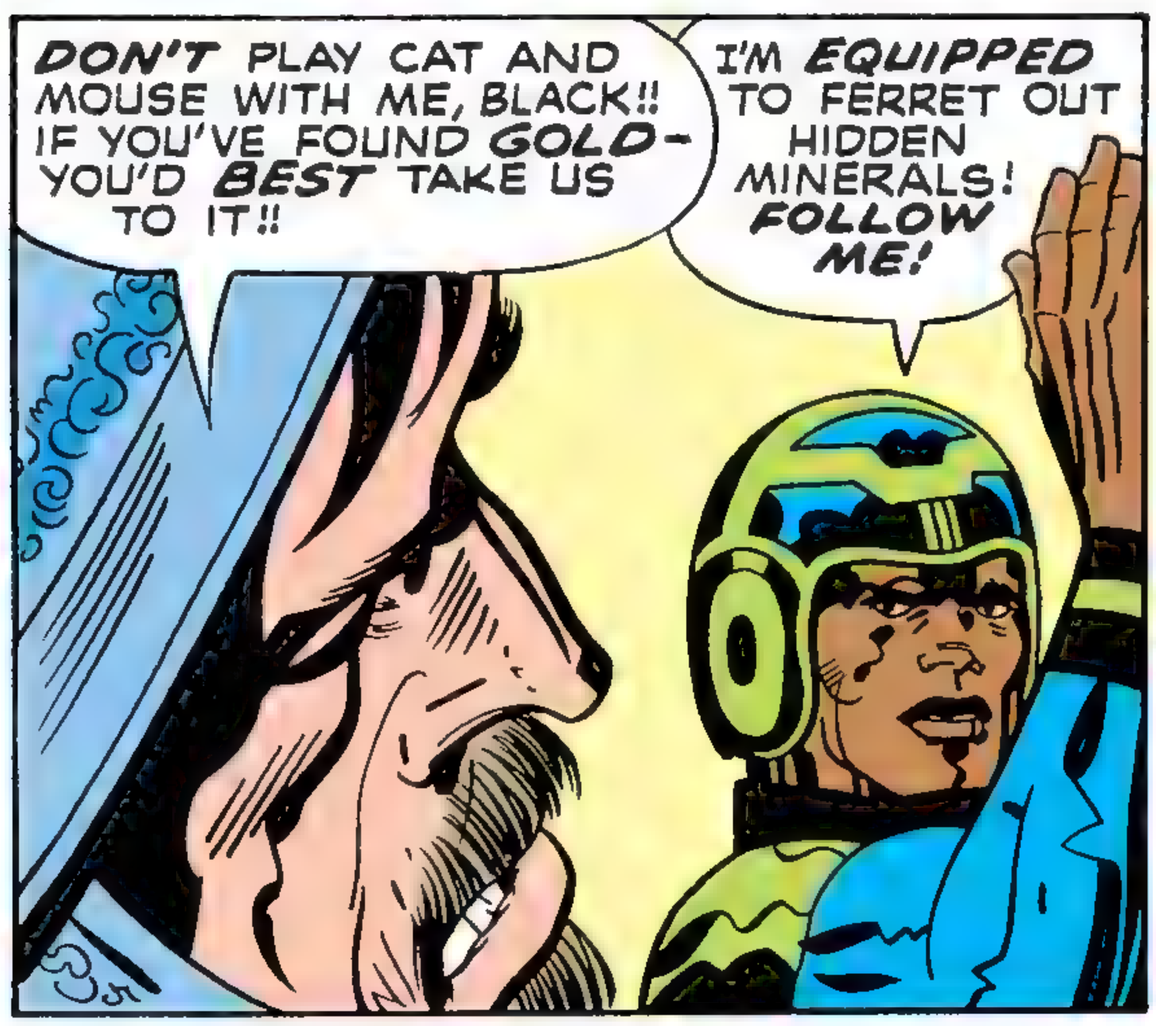
BE CAREFUL! HE'S UNLIKE ANY SAVAGE WE'VE SEEN IN THIS NEW LAND! LOOK AT HIS STRANGE GARB!!

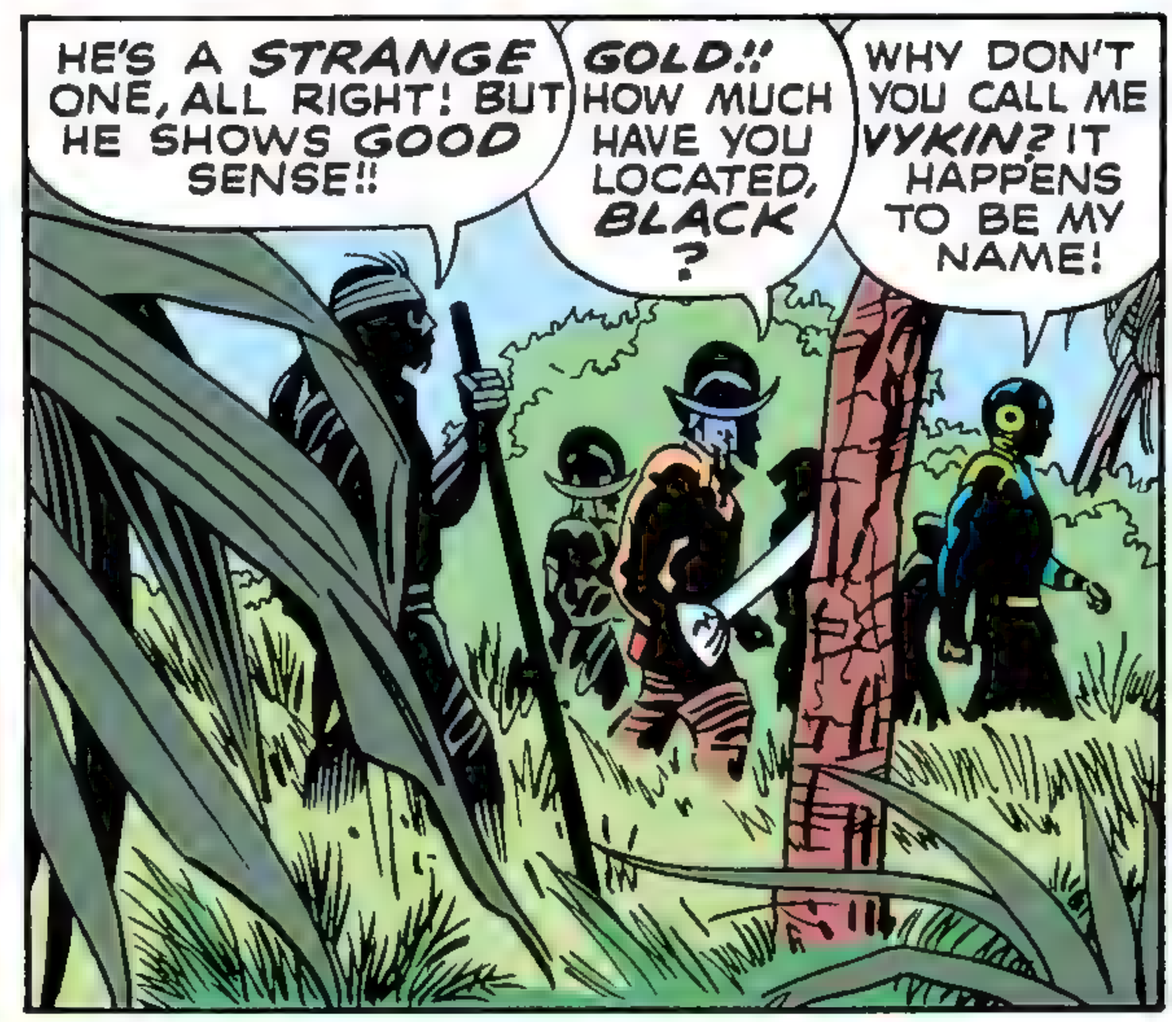
SPANIARDS!- IN EARLY AMERICA, NO LESS!! BEING A LANGUAGE MAJOR, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH THEM!!

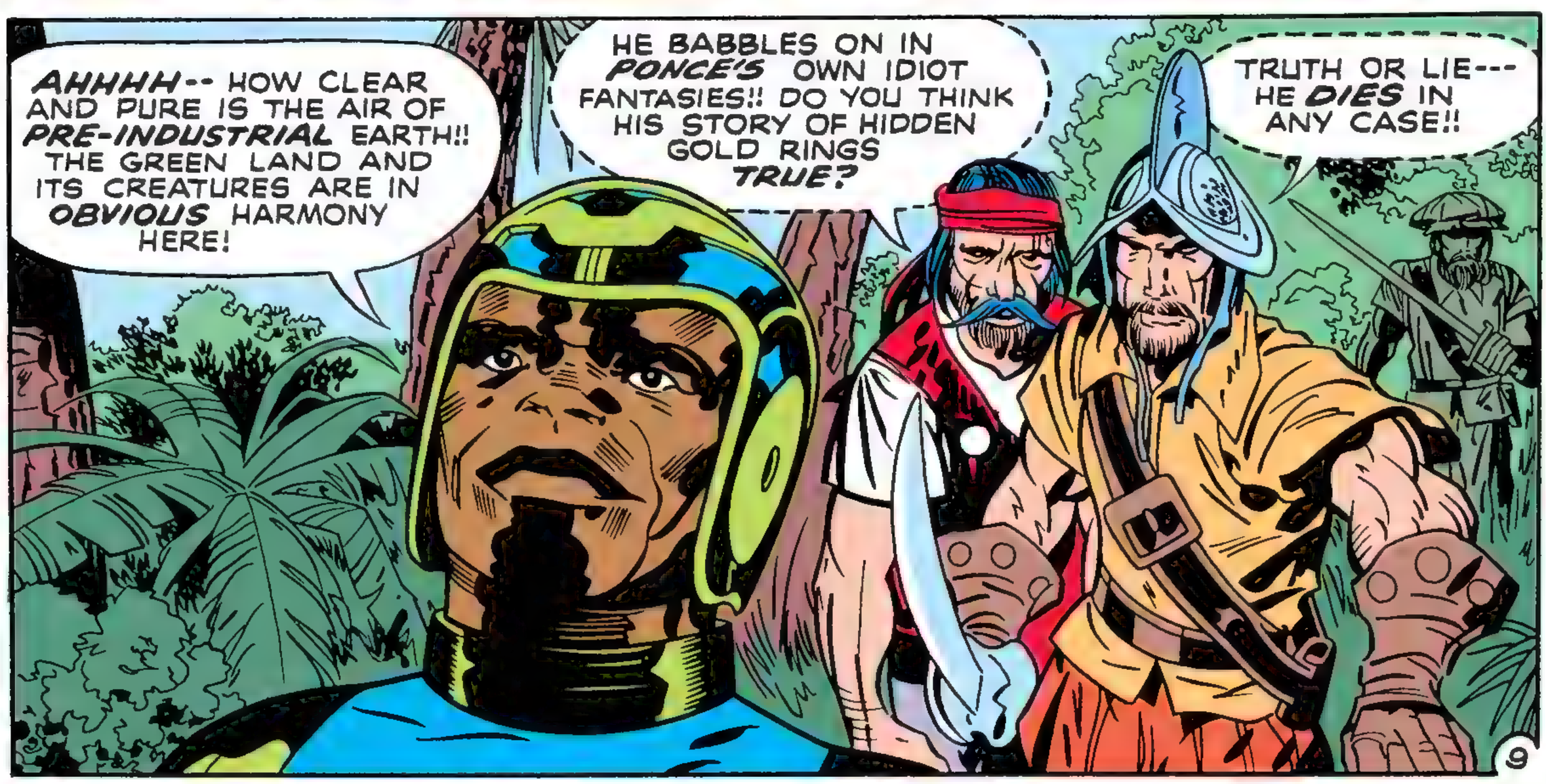
8

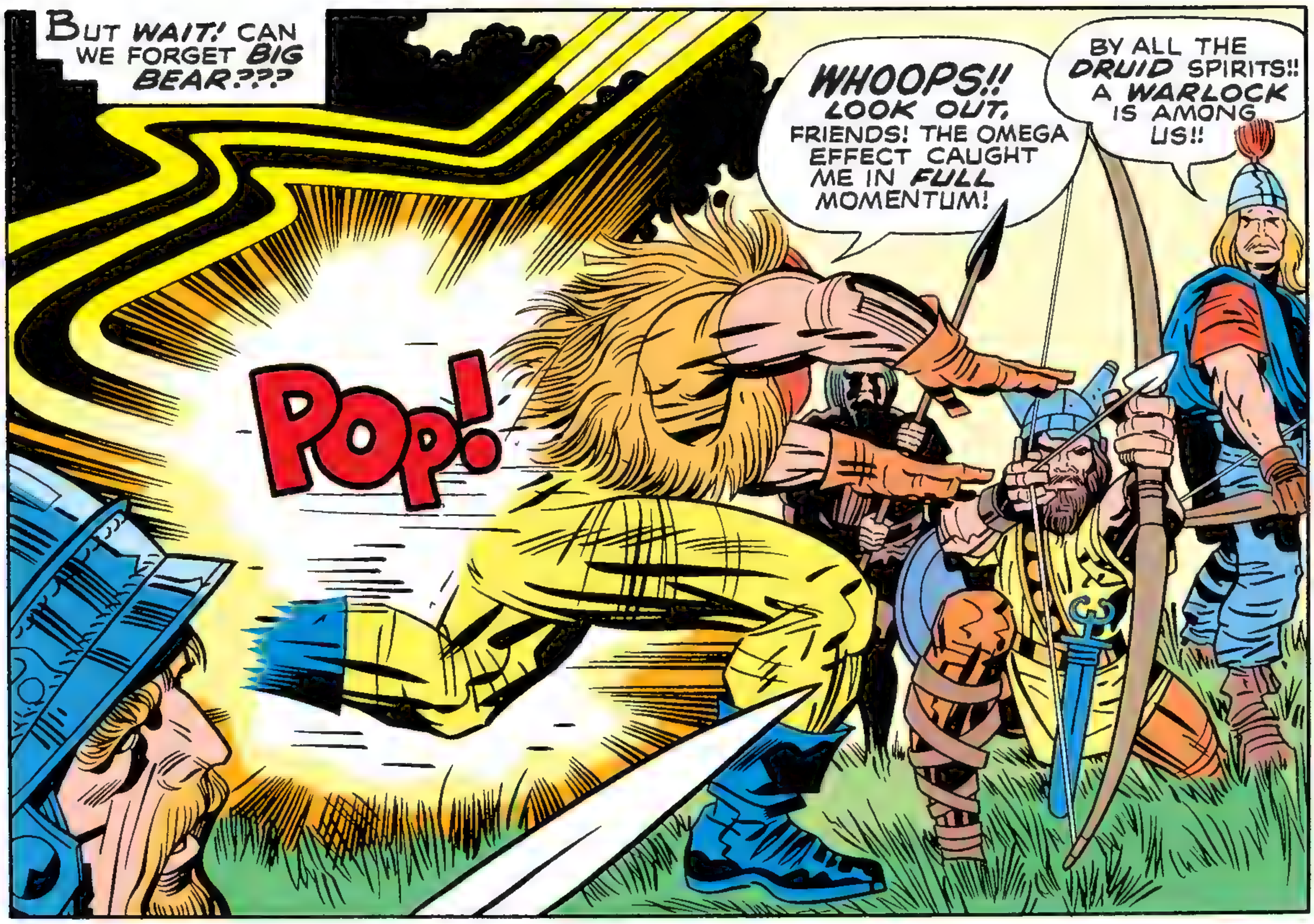
SPEAK, BLACK! HOW DID YOU GET HERE!? ARE YOU A DESERTER FROM PONCE'S SHIPS?
THAT FILLS THINGS IN A BIT!! PONCE DE LEON--THE LANDING IN FLORIDA--

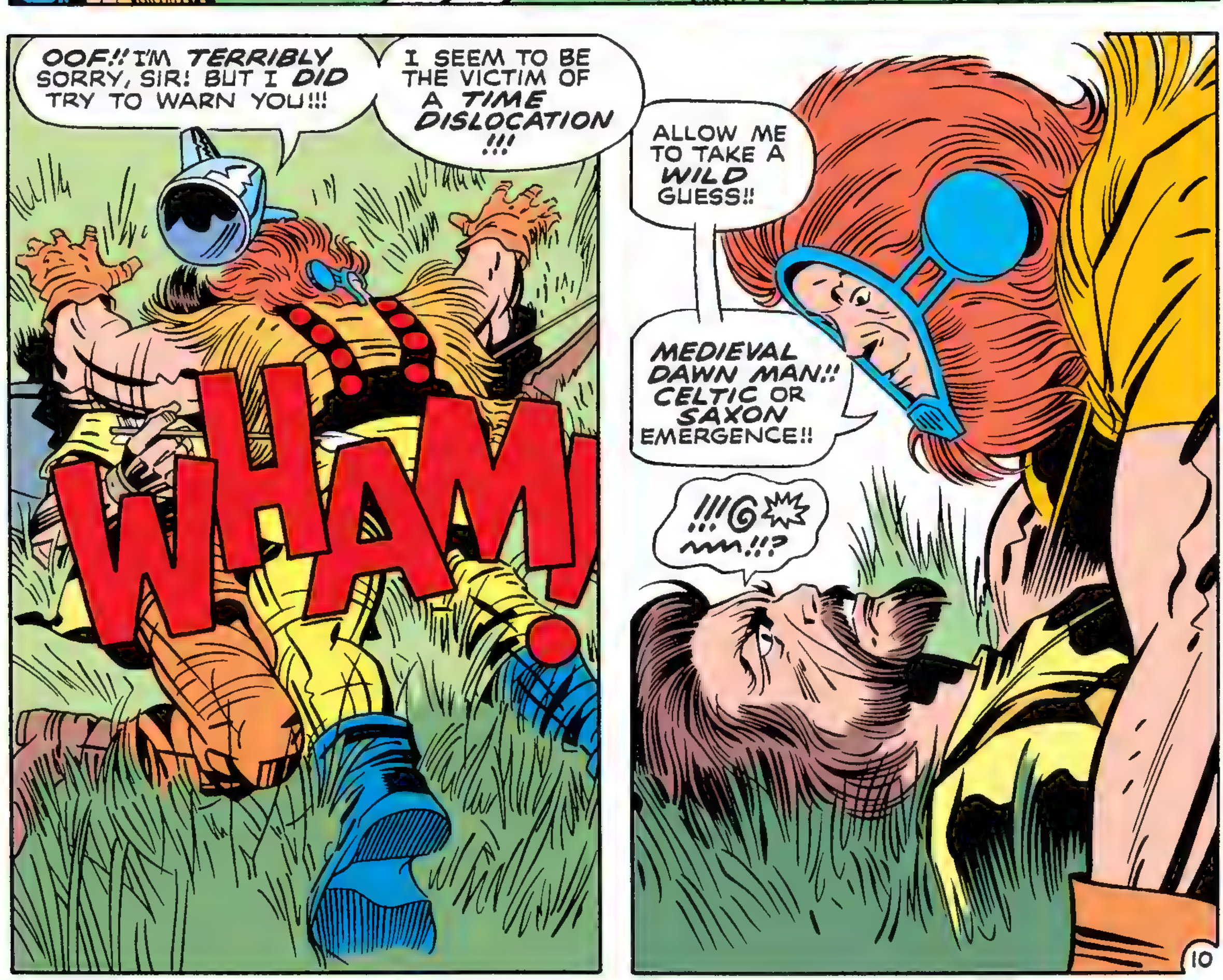
IF FEAR STILLS YOUR TONGUE, BE AT EASE!! OUR PARTY IS ON ITS OWN! WE'RE NOT BEATING THE BUSH FOR PONCE'S MYSTIC FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH!!
LET ME GUESS WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR--!!


DON'T PLAY CAT AND MOUSE WITH ME, BLACK!! IF YOU'VE FOUND GOLD- YOU'D BEST TAKE US TO IT!!
I'M EQUIPPED TO FERRET OUT HIDDEN MINERALS! FOLLOW ME!


HE'S A STRANGE ONE, ALL RIGHT! BUT HE SHOWS GOOD SENSE!!
GOLD!! HOW MUCH HAVE YOU LOCATED, BLACK ?
WHY DON'T YOU CALL ME VYKIN? IT HAPPENS TO BE MY NAME!


AHHHH-- HOW CLEAR AND PURE IS THE AIR OF PRE-INDUSTRIAL EARTH!! THE GREEN LAND AND ITS CREATURES ARE IN OBVIOUS HARMONY HERE!
HE BABBLES ON IN PONCE'S OWN IDIOT FANTASIES!! DO YOU THINK HIS STORY OF HIDDEN GOLD RINGS TRUE?
TRUTH OR LIE--- HE DIES IN ANY CASE!!
9


BUT WAIT! CAN WE FORGET BIG BEAR???
WHOOPS!! LOOK OUT, FRIENDS! THE OMEGA EFFECT CAUGHT ME IN FULL MOMENTUM!
BY ALL THE DRUID SPIRITS!! A WARLOCK IS AMONG US!!
POP!


OOF!! I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, SIR! BUT I DID TRY TO WARN YOU!!!
I SEEM TO BE THE VICTIM OF A TIME DISLOCATION !!!
WHAM!
ALLOW ME TO TAKE A WILD GUESS!!
MEDIEVAL DAWN MAN!! CELTIC OR SAXON EMERGENCE!!
!!! MM!!?
10

HOLD THAT DELIGHTFUL ELOQUENCE, SIR!!--
BY ADJUSTING THESE EAR-CIRCUITS TO "IN-STANTANEOUS TRANSLATION," I CAN OVERCOME THIS HANDICAP OF "LANGUAGE BARRIER!!"
NOW, GENTLEMEN, WE CAN SPEAK FREELY-!!
BEAR OF A WARLOCK!! WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO ATTACK THE ROMANS WHEN YOU APPEARED!
CLUMSY FOOL!
BLAST THE WARLOCK! WE CAN STILL ATTACK!
SEE, WARLOCK!! THE CURSED OCCUPIERS LEAVE OUR LAND!! CAN YOU CAST A SPELL TO HELP US HARASS THEM ON THEIR JOURNEY HOME!!?
I CAN MAKE OUT THE ROMAN COMMANDER BIDDING FAREWELL TO THAT TRAITOR, ARTA!!
WHO, GOOD FRIENDS, IS THIS FELLOW ARTA??
ONE OF OUR KIND!-- TRAINED BY THE LOUTISH ROMANS AS SENTRIES TO GUARD THEIR MILES OF ROAD!!
WELL, I, FOR ONE, WOULD LIKE TO AVOID ANY PARTISAN FEELINGS AT THIS MOMENT! DON'T YOU FELLOWS APPRECIATE THE HISTORIC IMPORT OF WHAT'S HAPPENING!?

BIG BEAR, WITHOUT WARNING, BEGINS TO *CONFISCATE* THE WEAPONS FROM *UNWILLING* HANDS!

THE WARLOCK'S GONE *MAD!! KILL HIM!!*

HE'S GOT THE STRENGTH OF *TEN!*

WOULD YOU *PLEASE* GIVE ME YOUR WEAPONS? VIOLENCE WOULD *SPOIL* EVERYTHING RIGHT NOW!!

I REALIZE YOU'RE *SENSITIVE* ABOUT ALL THIS, BUT I *CAN'T* PASS UP THE OPPORTUNITY OF ACTUALLY WITNESSING A SIGHT OF SUCH *MAJESTY!!*

THOP!

THOP!

THOP!

THOP!

I'M A *HISTORY BUFF,* YOU KNOW!! ALWAYS *LOVED* IT!

ONE SIDE, PLEASE !!!

HE'S A *DEMON!* ONLY A DEMON COULD LIFT A BOULDER WITH SUCH *EASE!!*

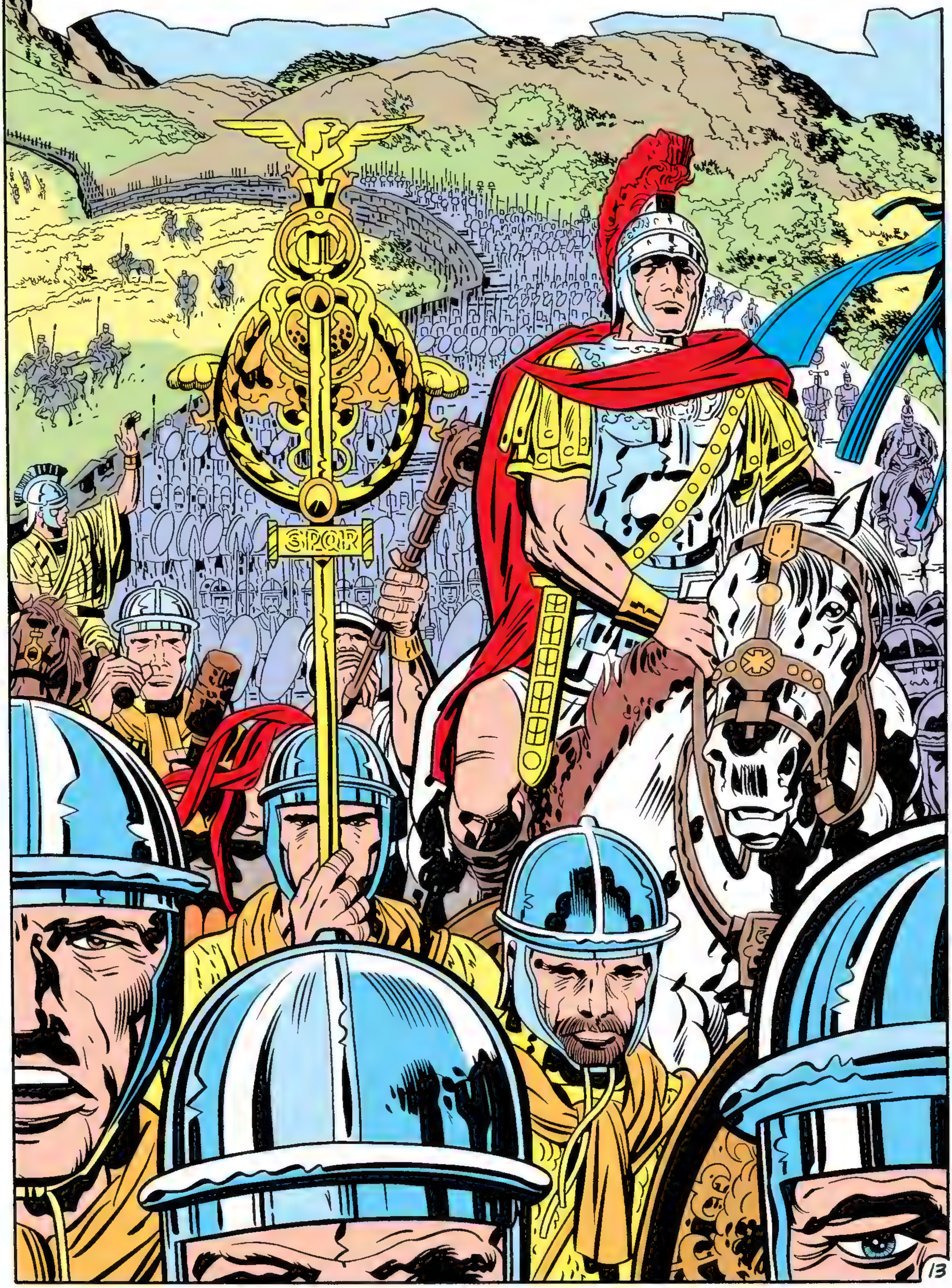
YOU, THERE!-- WITH THE SPIKED HELMET! *DOWN IN FRONT!!*

RELEASE OUR WEAPONS, YOU DEMON!! YOUR *EVIL* MAGIC IS *RUINING* THIS DAY OF VENGEANCE!!

THE ROMANS ARE ON THE *MOVE!* GO HOME, *ROMANS! GO HOME!!*

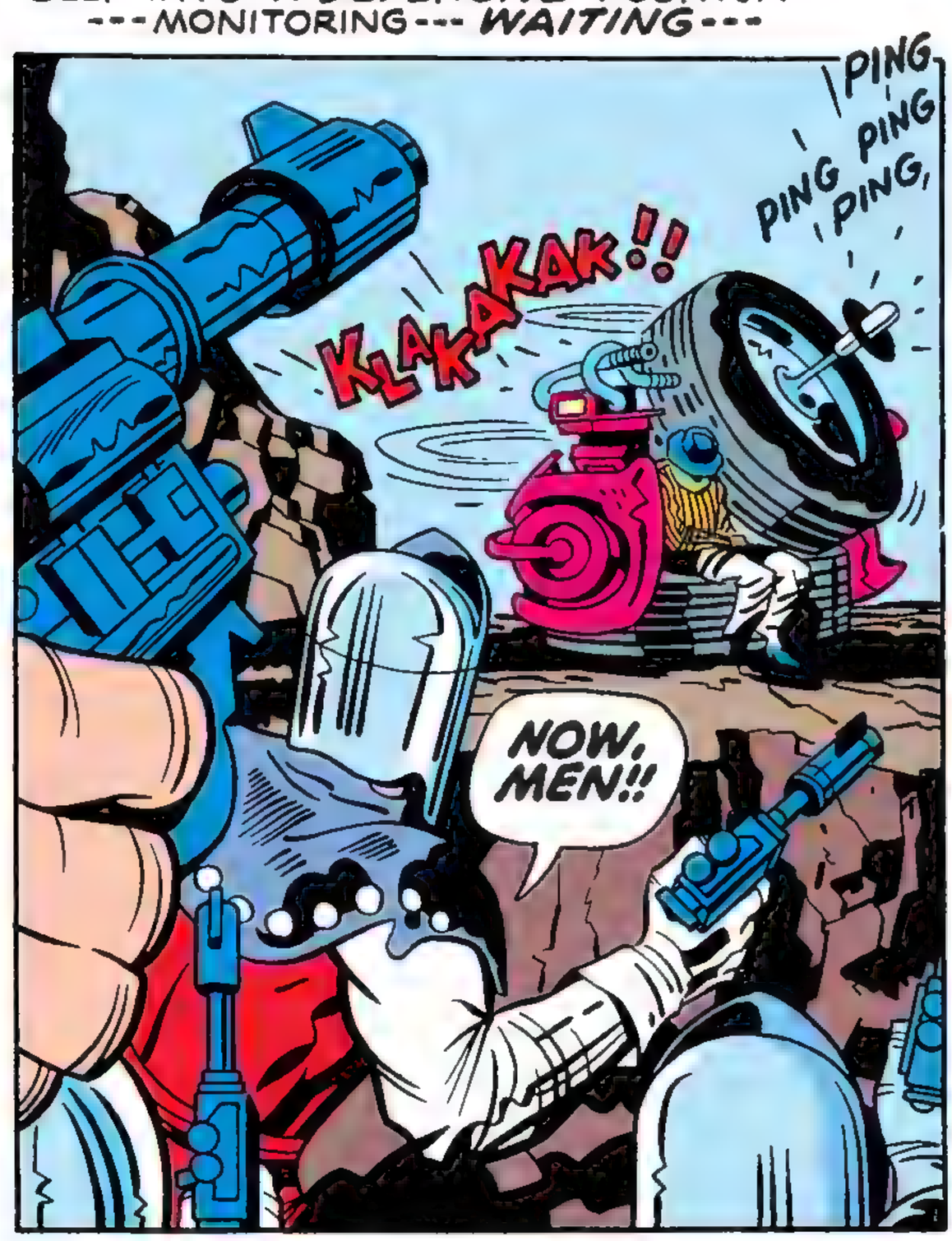
12

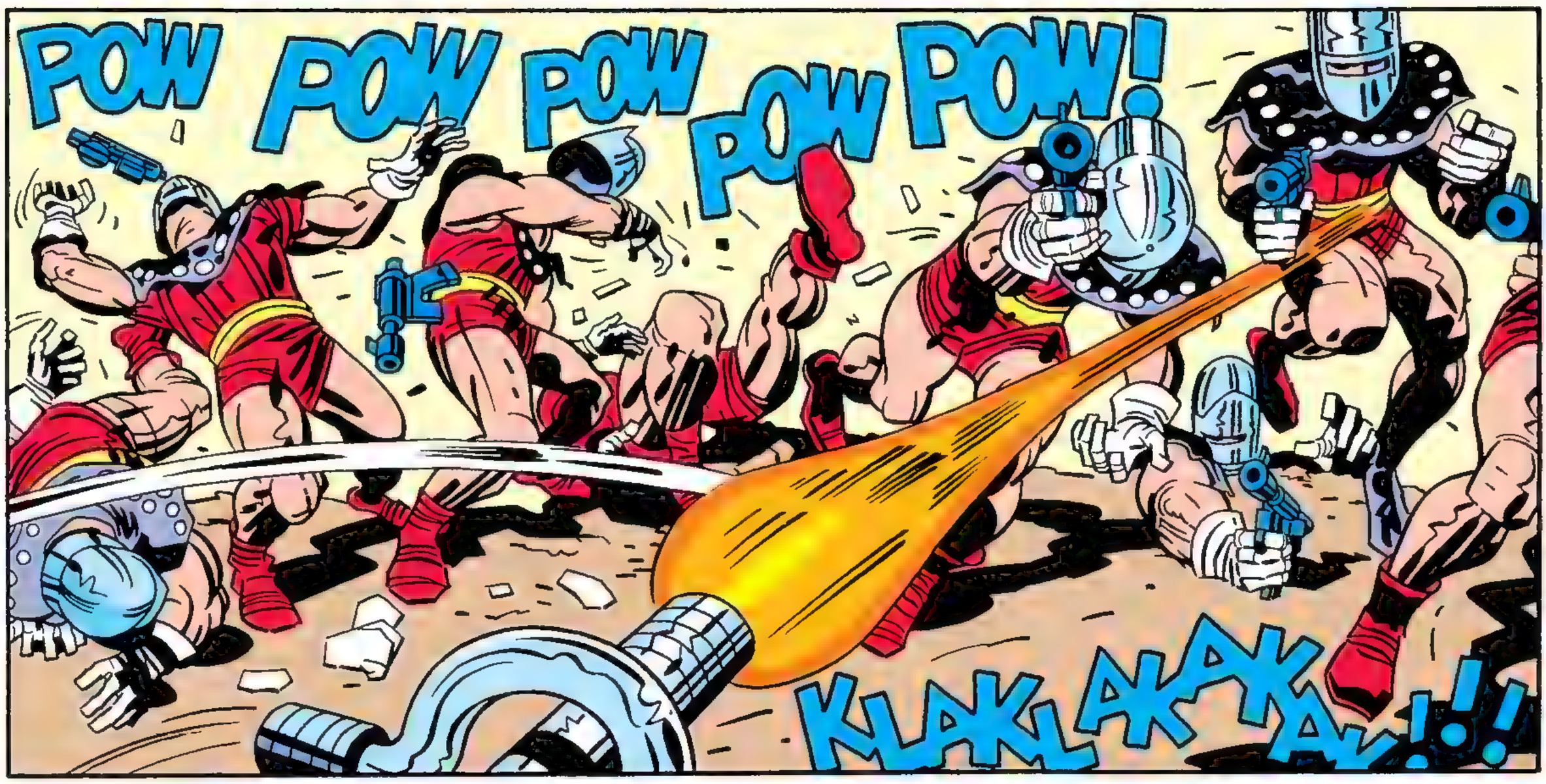
THERE IS *NO* DOUBT IN BIG BEAR'S MIND THAT THIS IS THE BIG ROMAN *"PULL-OUT"* FROM *ANCIENT BRITAIN!!*--THE LAST OF THE LEGIONS, CASTING AN ETERNAL IMAGE OF POWER IN THE ROLL AND THUNDER OF THEIR DEPARTURE!! *"IT'S DARKSEID WHO SHOULD BE SEEING THIS!"*, THINKS BIG BEAR---*"AFTER ALL, THESE ARE HIS CHILDREN!*--EVER EVOLVING FROM MAN'S WEAKNESS FOR DOMINION---HIS *FEAR* OF OTHERS--HIS *JEALOUSY* OF OTHERS---HIS *WORSHIP* OF STRENGTH!!!"

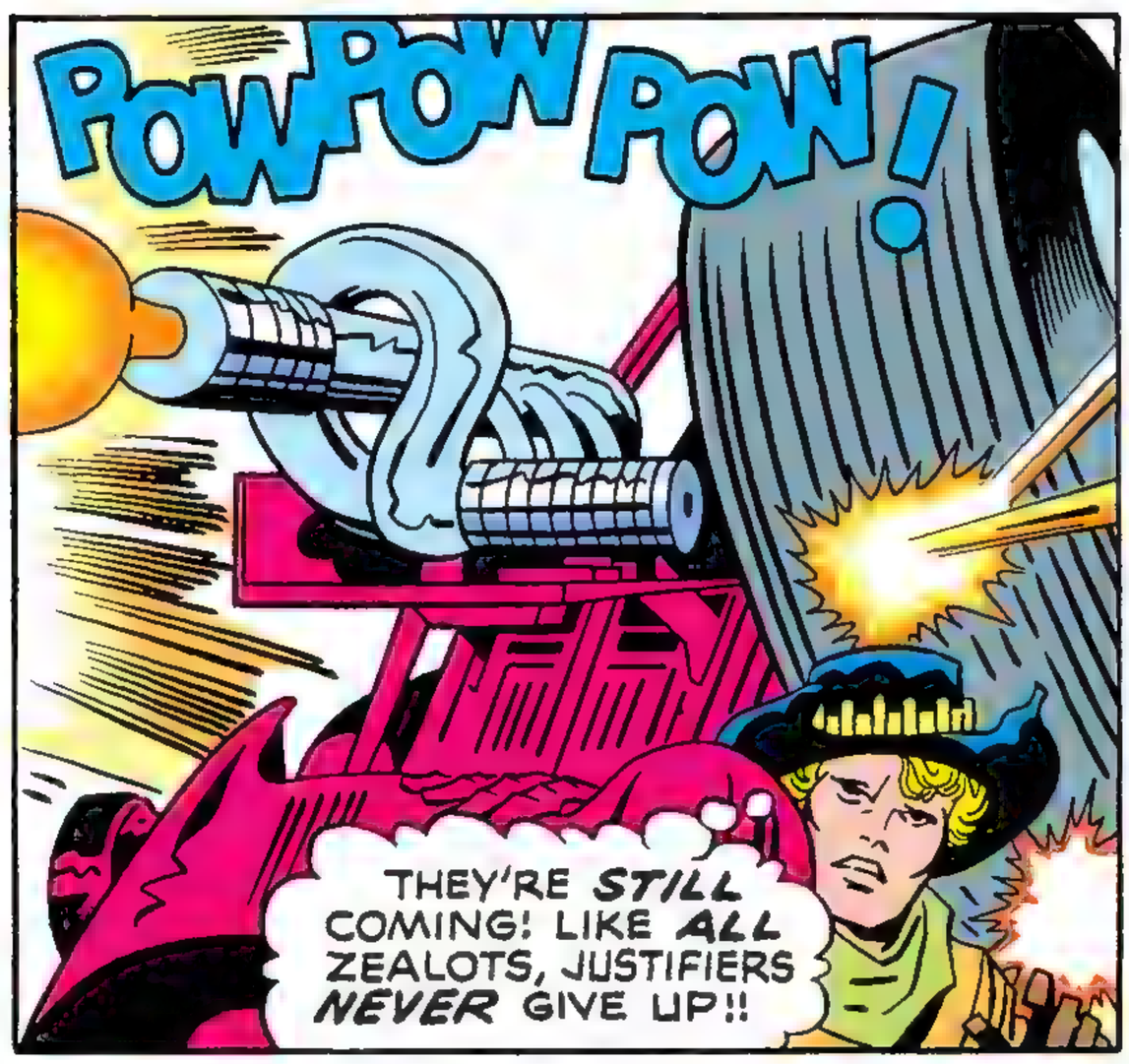


STRENGTH IS ALSO THE CREED OF *GLORIOUS GODFREY,* WHO PREACHES *DARKSEID'S REVELATION OF CONFLICT!!* GODFREY IS NEITHER LOST IN TIME NOR SPACE!! HE IS WHERE HE MUST BE!!---AT THE POINT OF *CONFLICT!!*

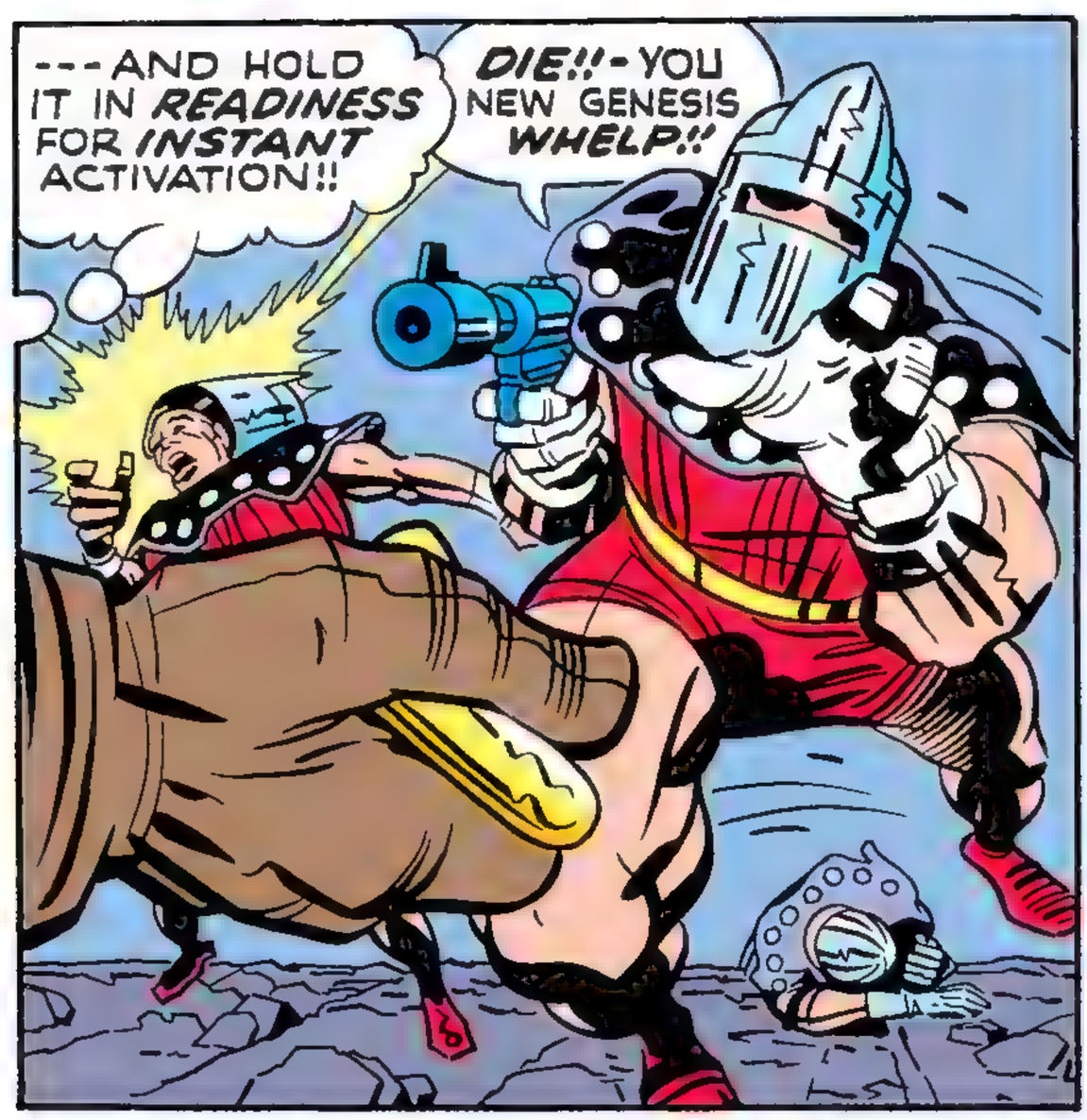
AND ON THE HILL TOP, *SERIFAN* WAITS BY THE SUPER-CYCLE--WHICH HAS FORMED ITSELF INTO A *DEFENSIVE* POSITION---
---MONITORING--- *WAITING*---

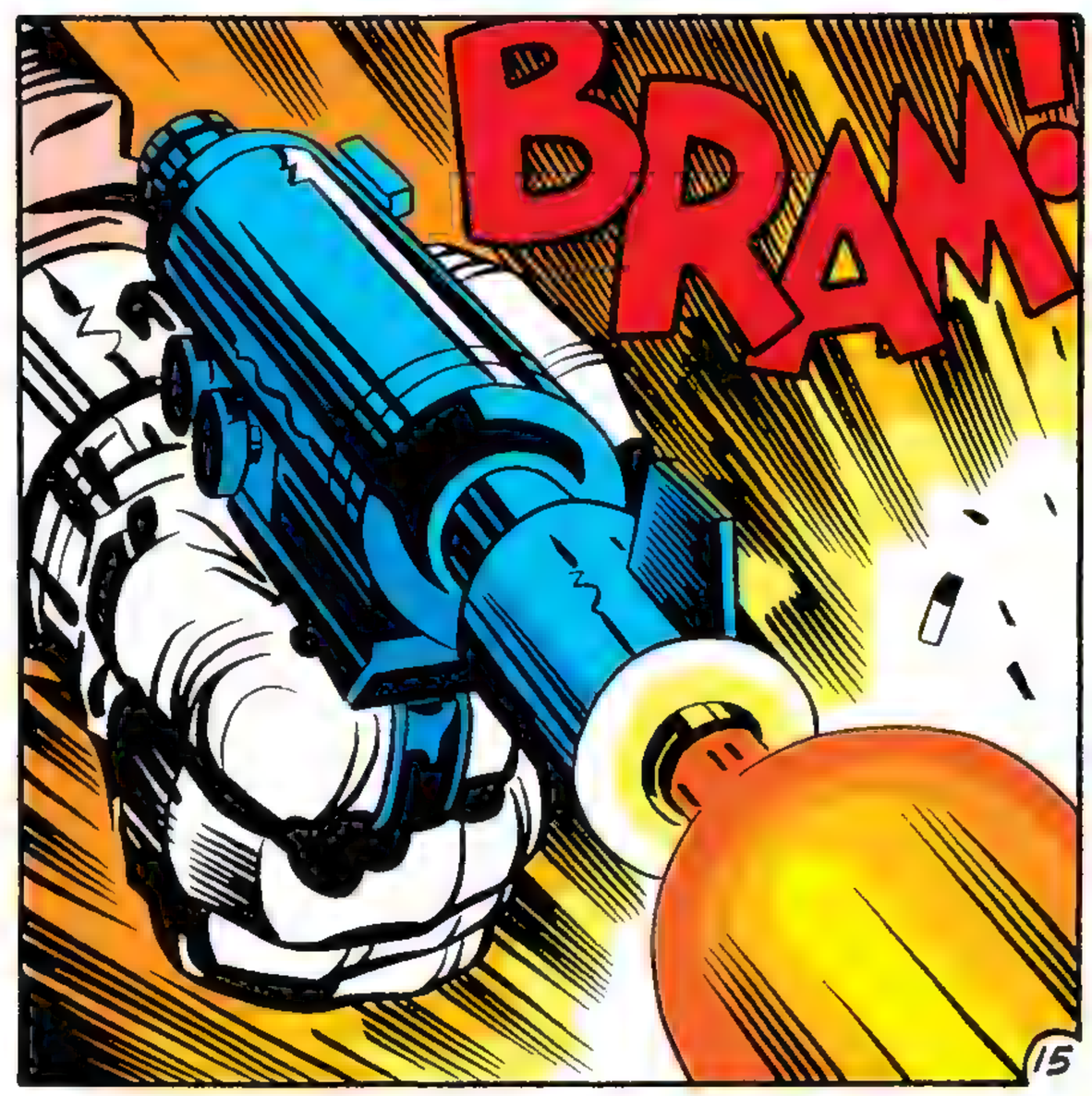



POW POW POW POW POW!
KLAKLAKAK!!!

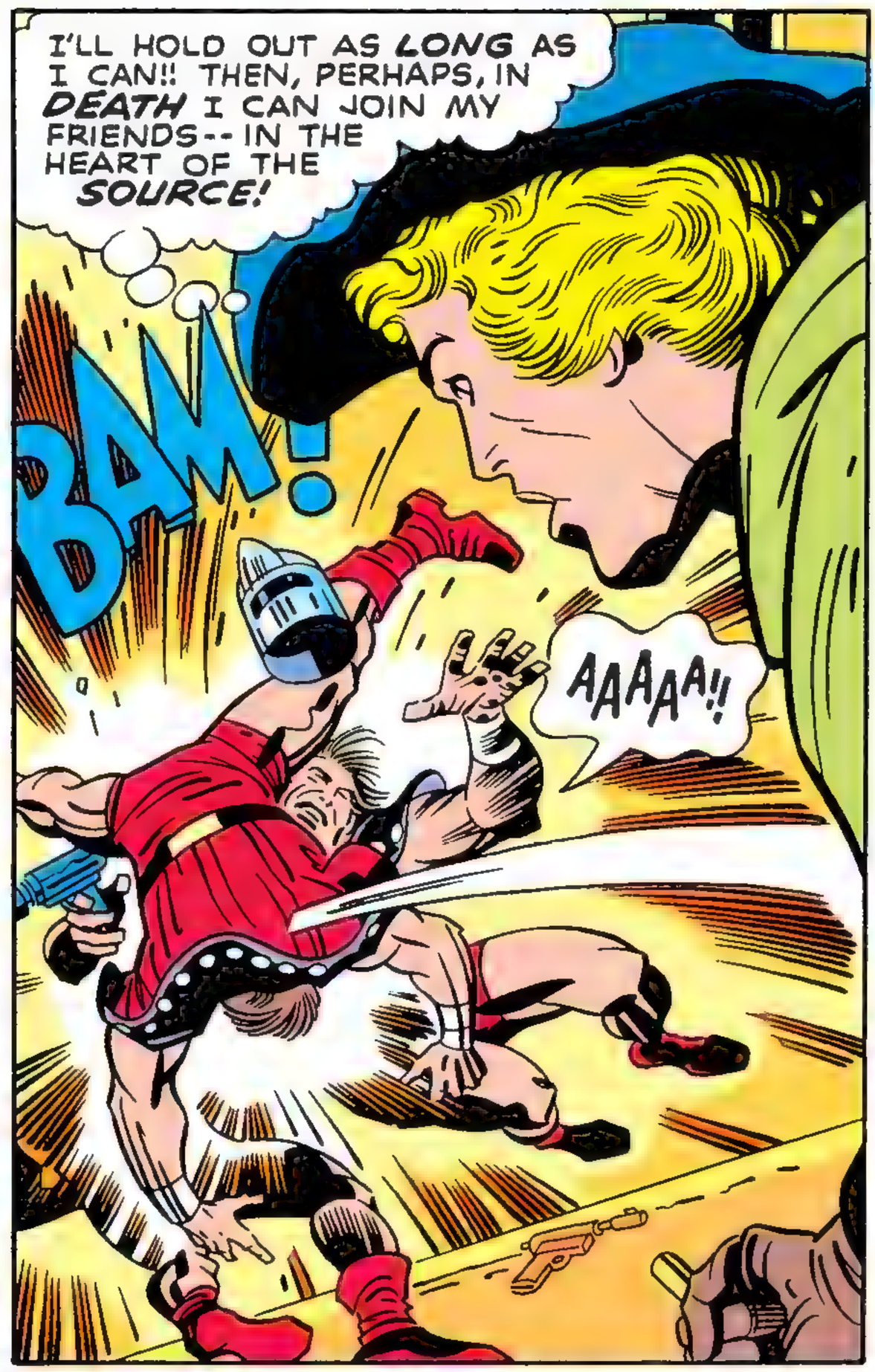

POW POW POW!
THEY'RE STILL COMING! LIKE ALL ZEALOTS, JUSTIFIERS NEVER GIVE UP!!

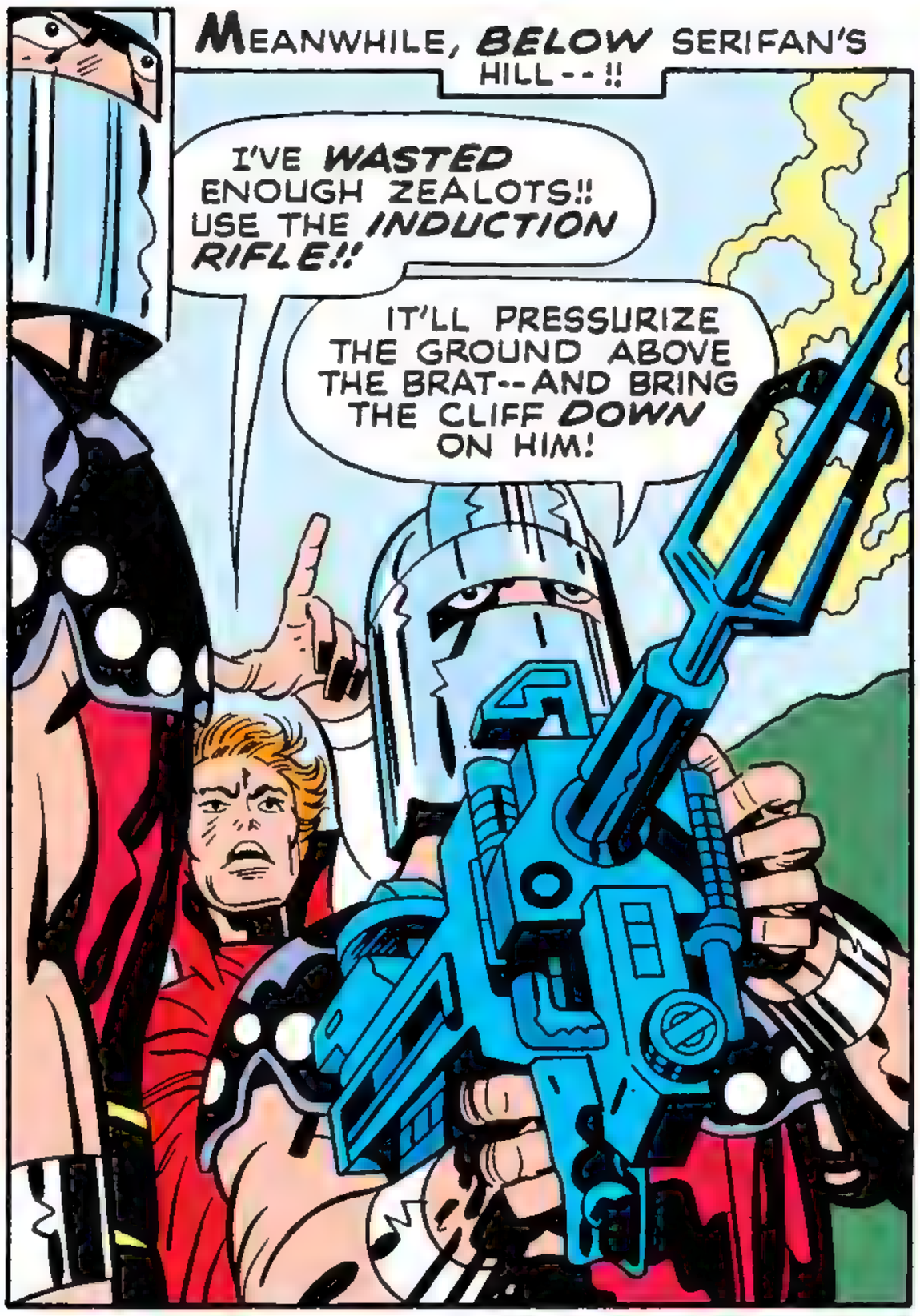
THE SUPER-CYCLE IS DEFENDING ITSELF MAGNIFICENTLY!! BUT SOME ATTACKERS ARE BOUND TO BREAK THROUGH!!
IT'S BEST THAT I CHOOSE THE CORRECT COSMIC CARTRIDGE FROM MY HAT-BAND ---

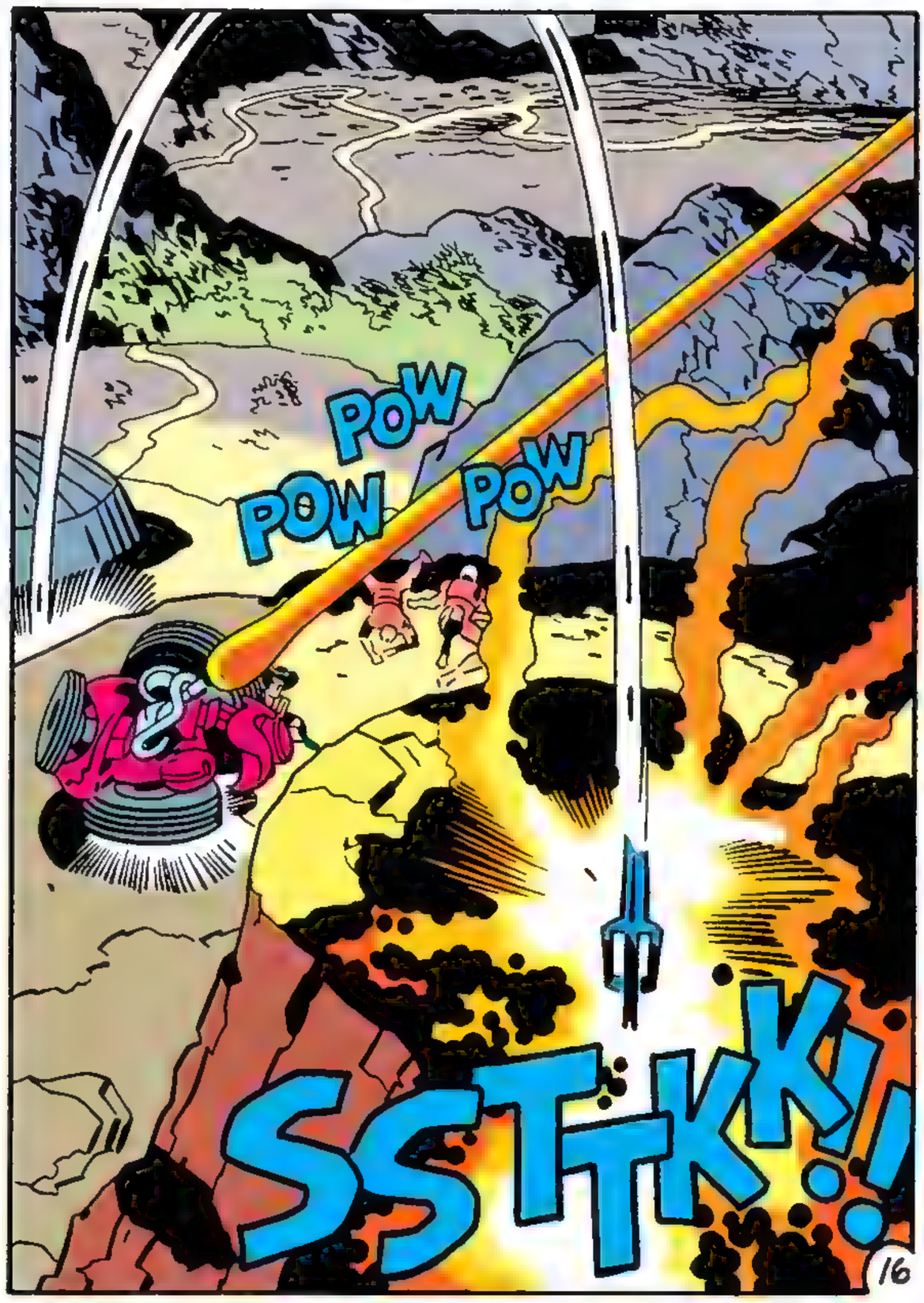

---AND HOLD IT IN READINESS FOR INSTANT ACTIVATION!!
DIE!!-YOU NEW GENESIS WHELP!!


BRAM!
15

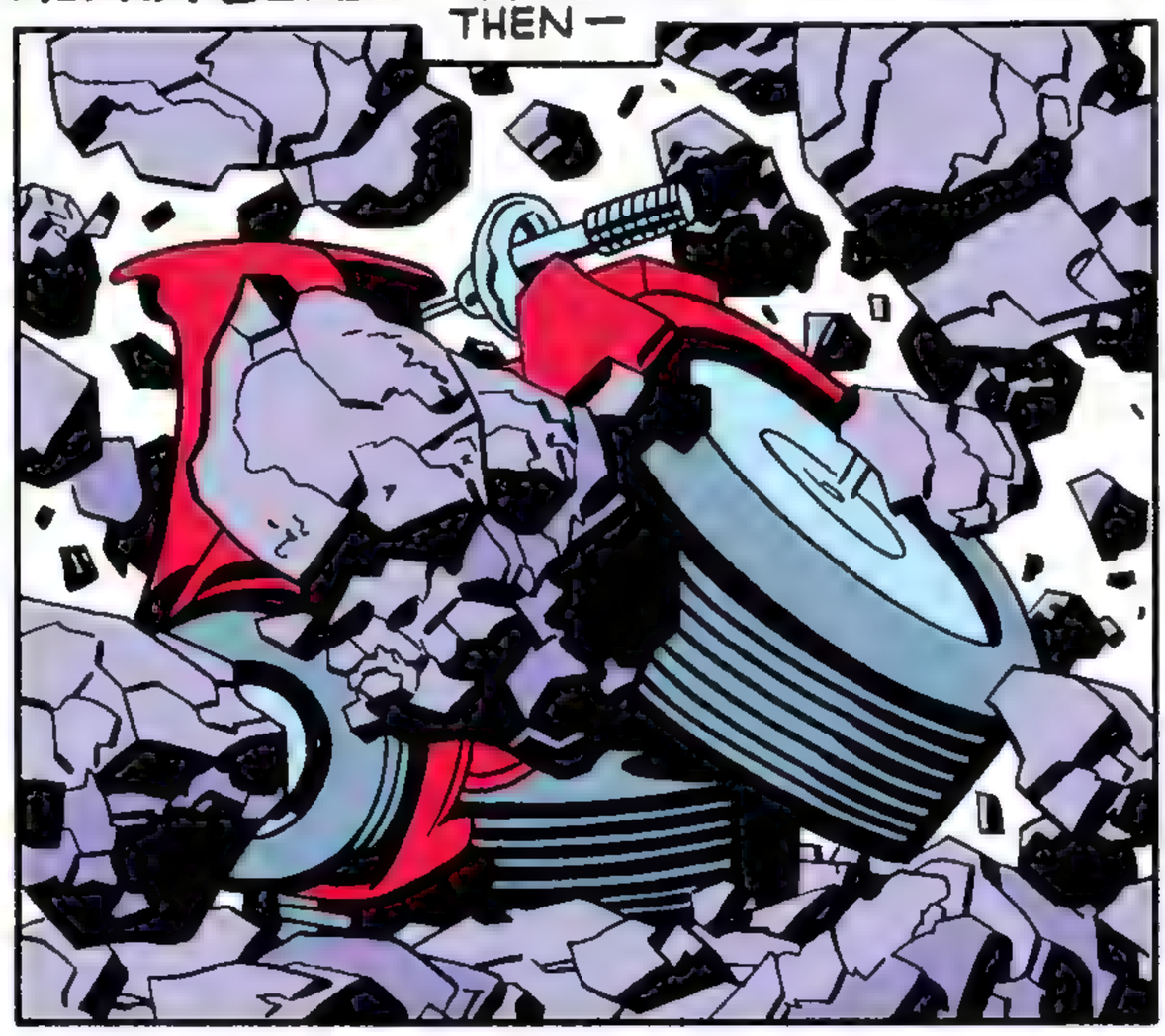
EVEN AS THE JUSTIFIER'S WEAPON FIRES, THE COSMIC CARTRIDGE GENERATES A *SHIELD* OF ATOMS--STRONG ENOUGH TO *REPEL* THE SHOT AND CAUSE IT TO REBOUND ON THE ATTACKER!

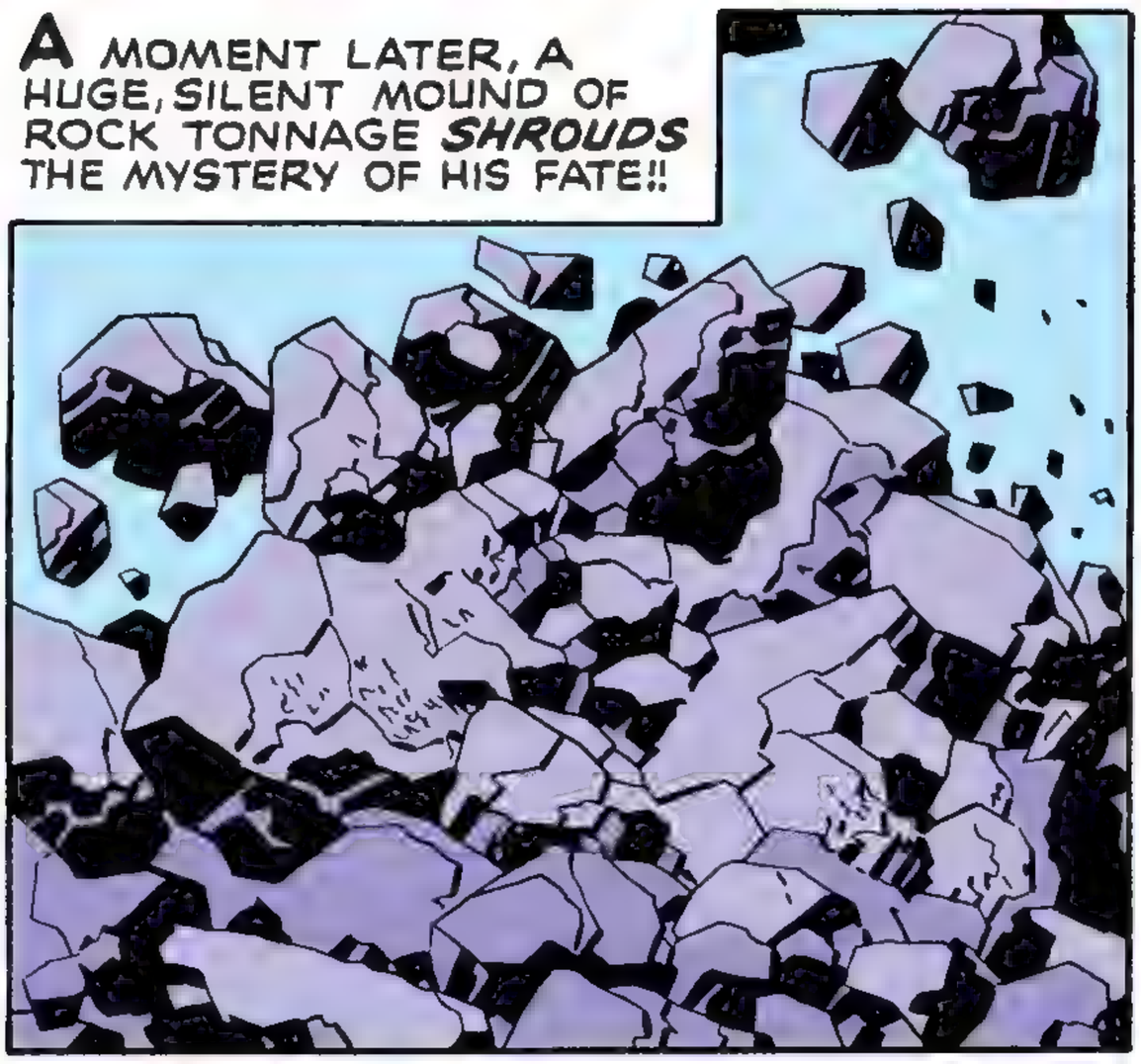


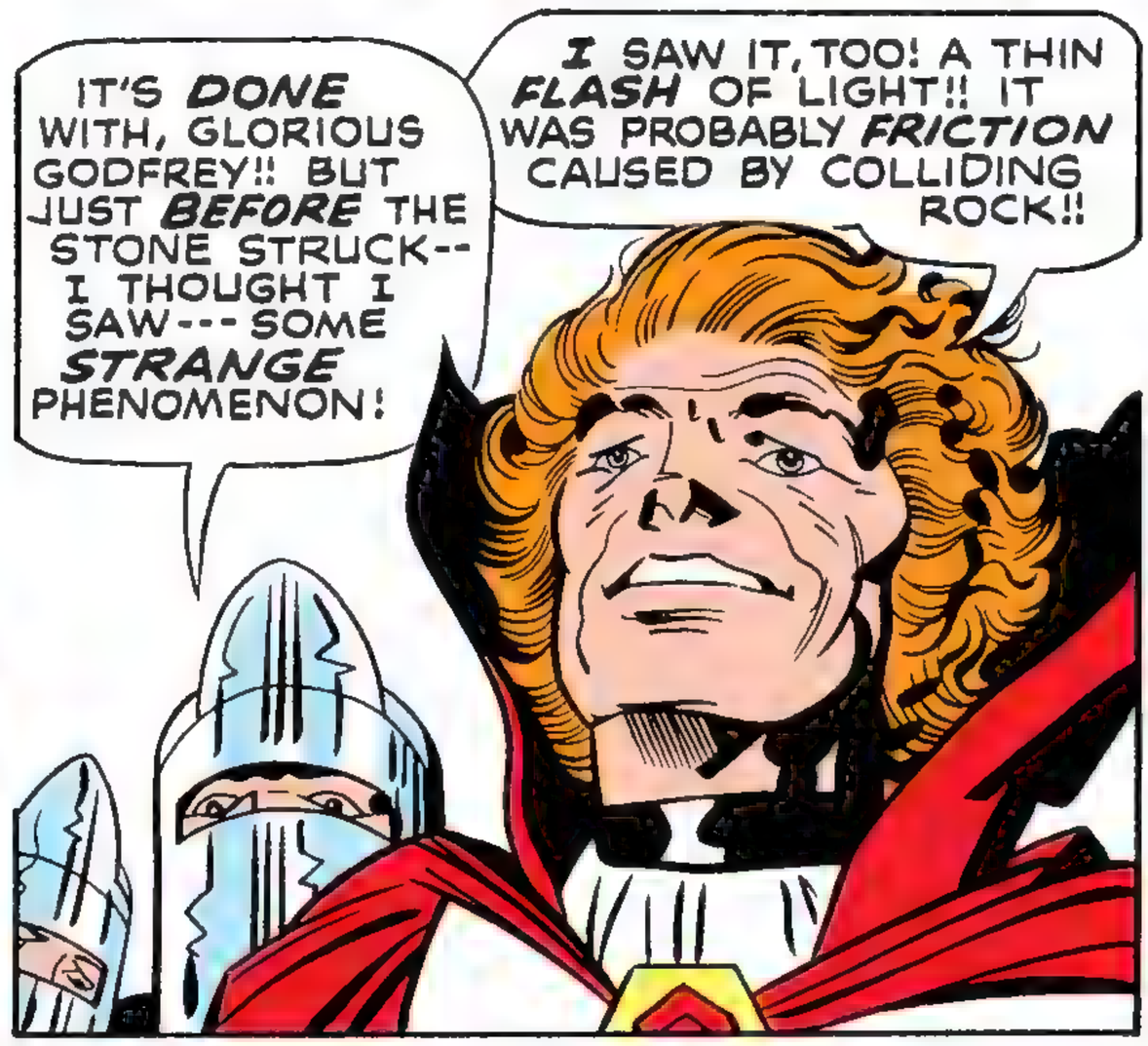


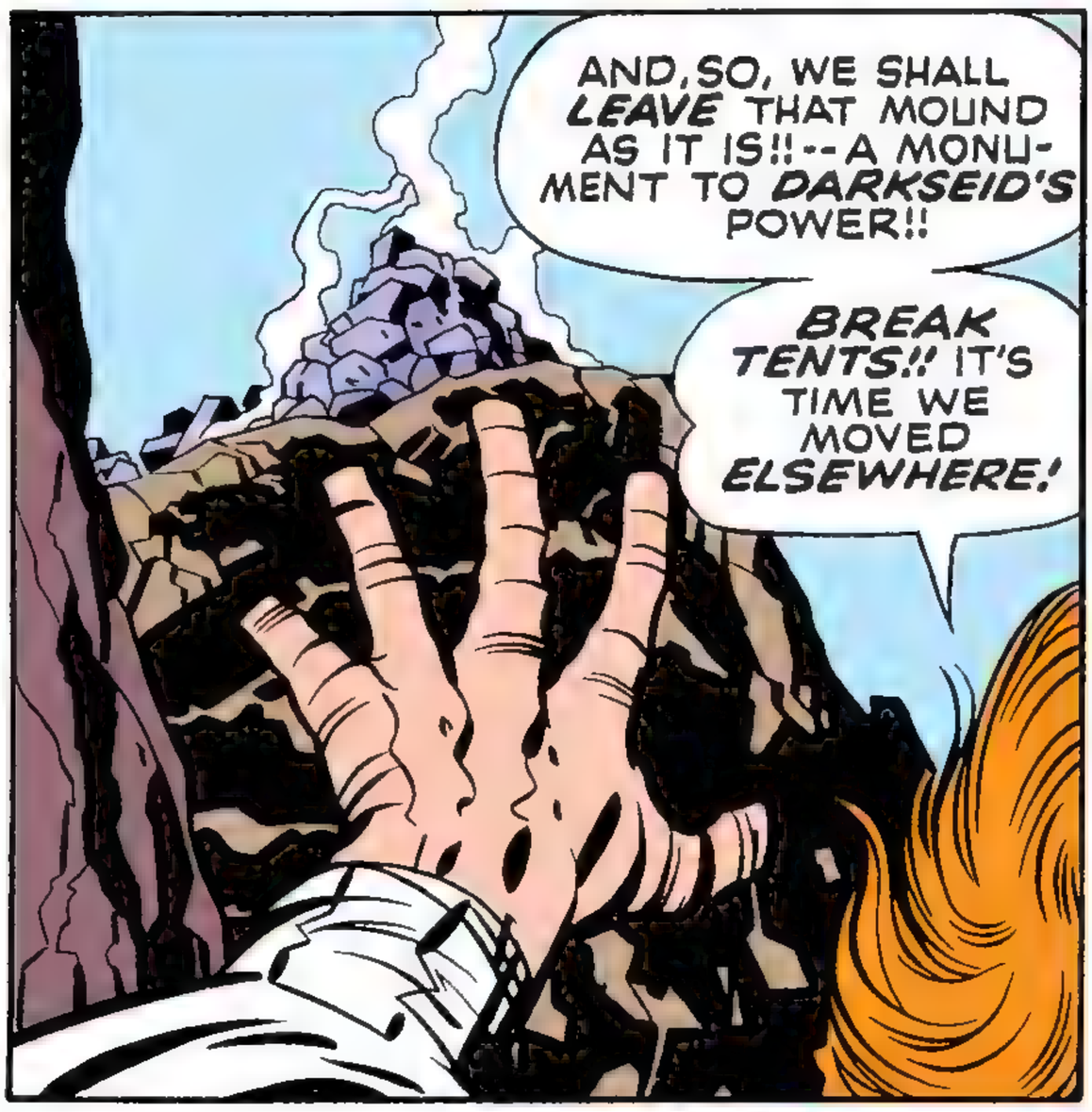


WOWWWW!!


SERIFAN IS TRANSFIXED BY THE TERRIFYING FALL OF ROCK--AND, SO, MISSES SEEING THE ALPHA BULLET STREAKING TOWARD HIM!!
THEN—


A MOMENT LATER, A HUGE, SILENT MOUND OF ROCK TONNAGE SHROUDS THE MYSTERY OF HIS FATE!!


IT'S DONE WITH, GLORIOUS GODFREY!! BUT JUST BEFORE THE STONE STRUCK-- I THOUGHT I SAW--- SOME STRANGE PHENOMENON!
I SAW IT, TOO! A THIN FLASH OF LIGHT!! IT WAS PROBABLY FRICTION CAUSED BY COLLIDING ROCK!!


AND, SO, WE SHALL LEAVE THAT MOUND AS IT IS!!--A MONUMENT TO DARKSEID'S POWER!!
BREAK TENTS!! IT'S TIME WE MOVED ELSEWHERE!

ALPHA-BULLETS!! NEVER SEEN BEFORE ON EARTH---UNTIL THIS MOMENT--ORIGINATE FROM A DIFFERENT HAND!! THE HAND WHICH GOVERNS NEW GENESIS!!
THUS, FOR SERIFAN! NOW, TO FIND THE OTHERS-!!
17

IN THE *CHAMBER OF REGENERATION,* HIGHFATHER ATTUNES HIMSELF TO THE *INFINITE*--AND EXTENDS HIS HAND ONCE MORE!!

I CAN SENSE THEM *ALL* NOW! MOONRIDER! BEAUTIFUL DREAMER! VYKIN THE BLACK! BIG BEAR!--AND SONNY SUMO!!

AS DARKSEID HAS BANISHED THEM WITH HIS BLAZING EYES--I, HIGHFATHER, *GATHER THEM IN*-- WITH THE POWER OF THIS HAND!!!

AS OMEGA ENDS ALL THINGS--*LET ALPHA BEGIN THEM ANEW!! LET THE ALPHA BULLETS FLY!!*

RUSH INTO THE *"SOON TO BE!"* ACROSS THE *"NOW!"* FIND THEM IN THE *"ONCE WAS!"* *FIND* THEM--!! *RESTORE* THEM--!!--WHERE *I* HAVE *MEANT* IT TO BE!!

AND WHERE INFINITY BECOMES THE *PAST*--

YOUR CREDENTIALS *CHECK,* SIR!! THANK YOU!

YOU WERE ONLY DOING YOUR DUTY, OFFICER!

THAT WAS *CLOSE!* HE WAS INSPECTING CREDENTIALS THAT WERE MERE *ILLUSION!!*

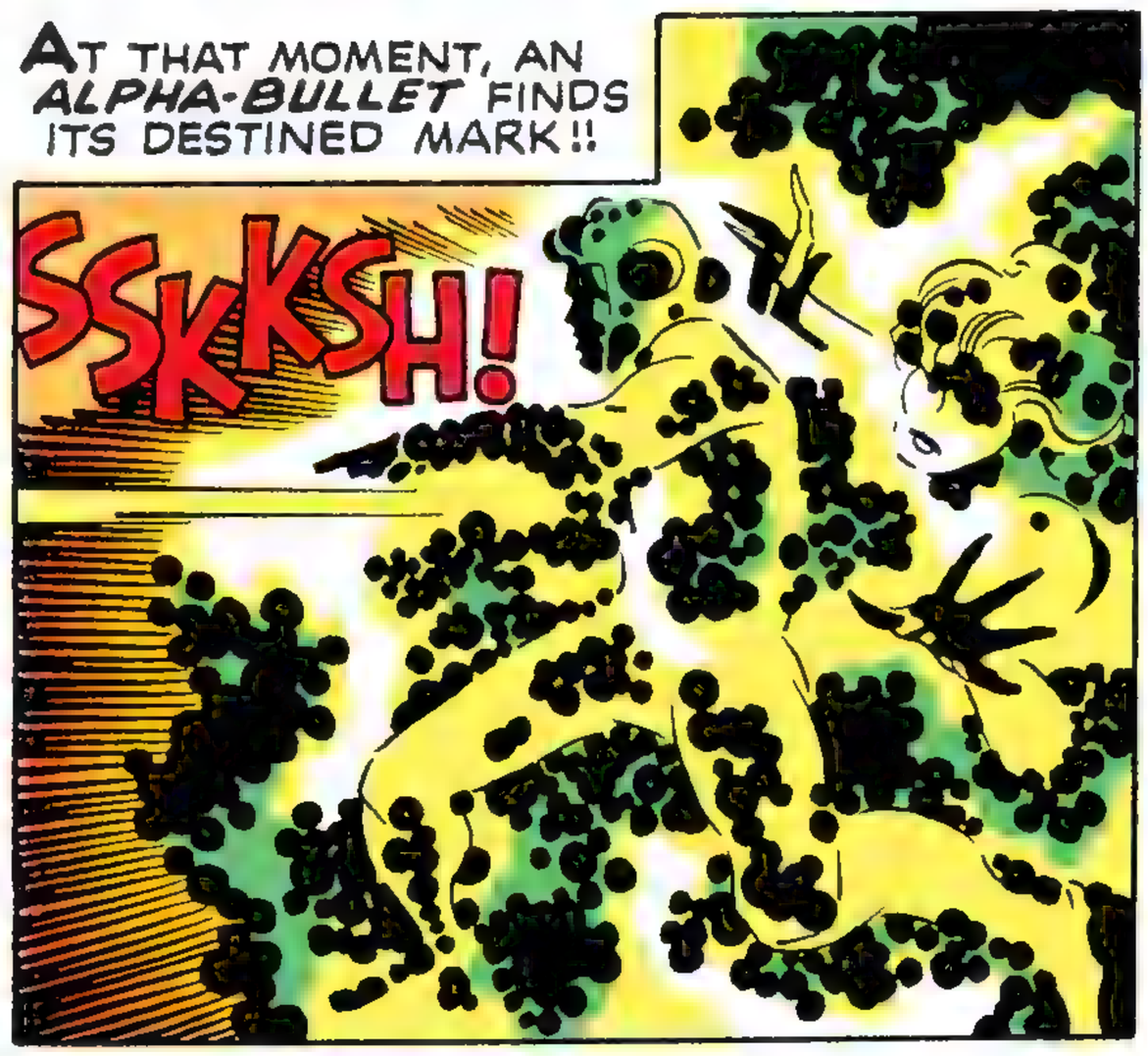
WELL, I CREATED WHAT HE *WANTED* TO SEE!! *NOW* WHAT !!??

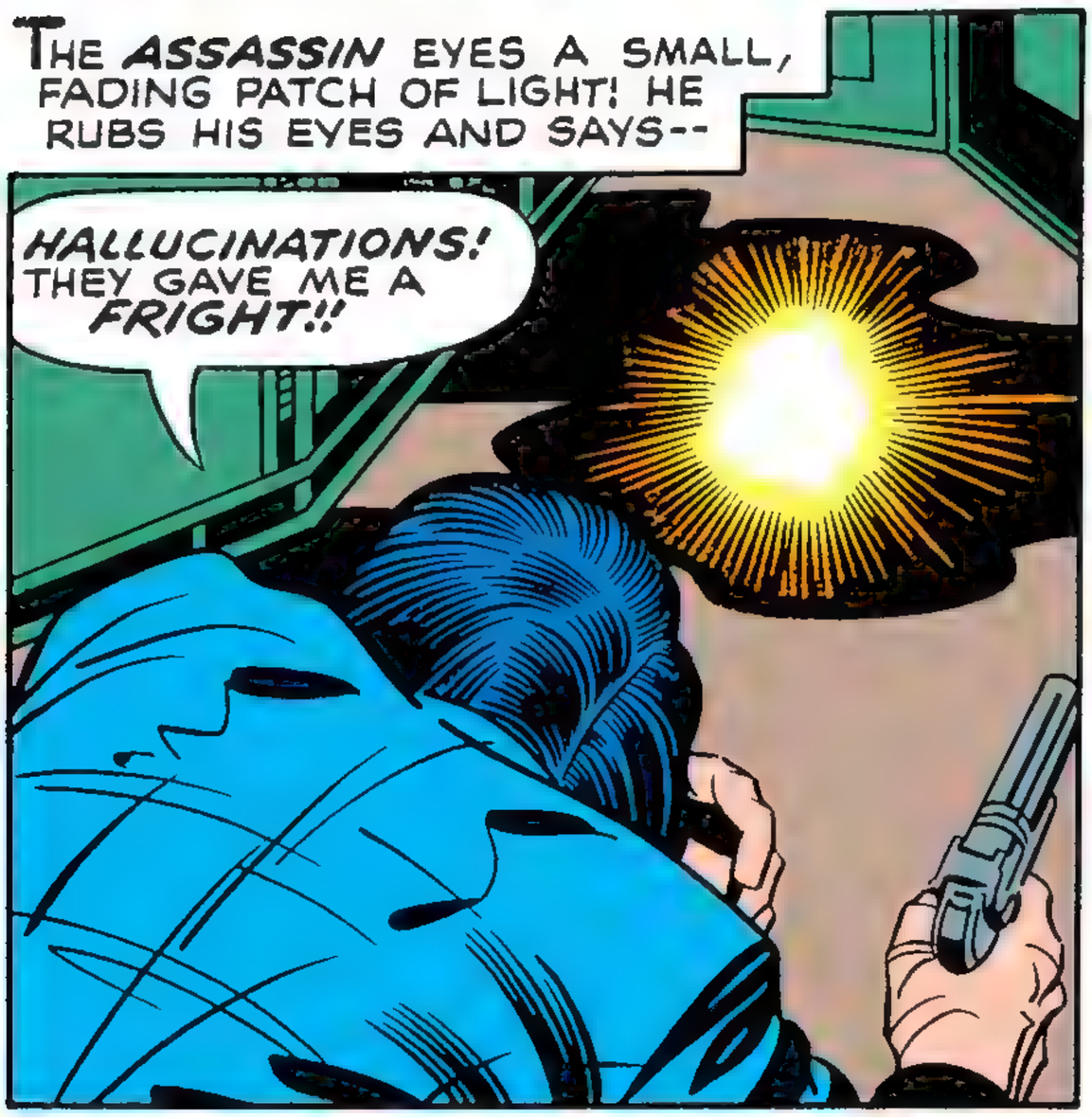
18

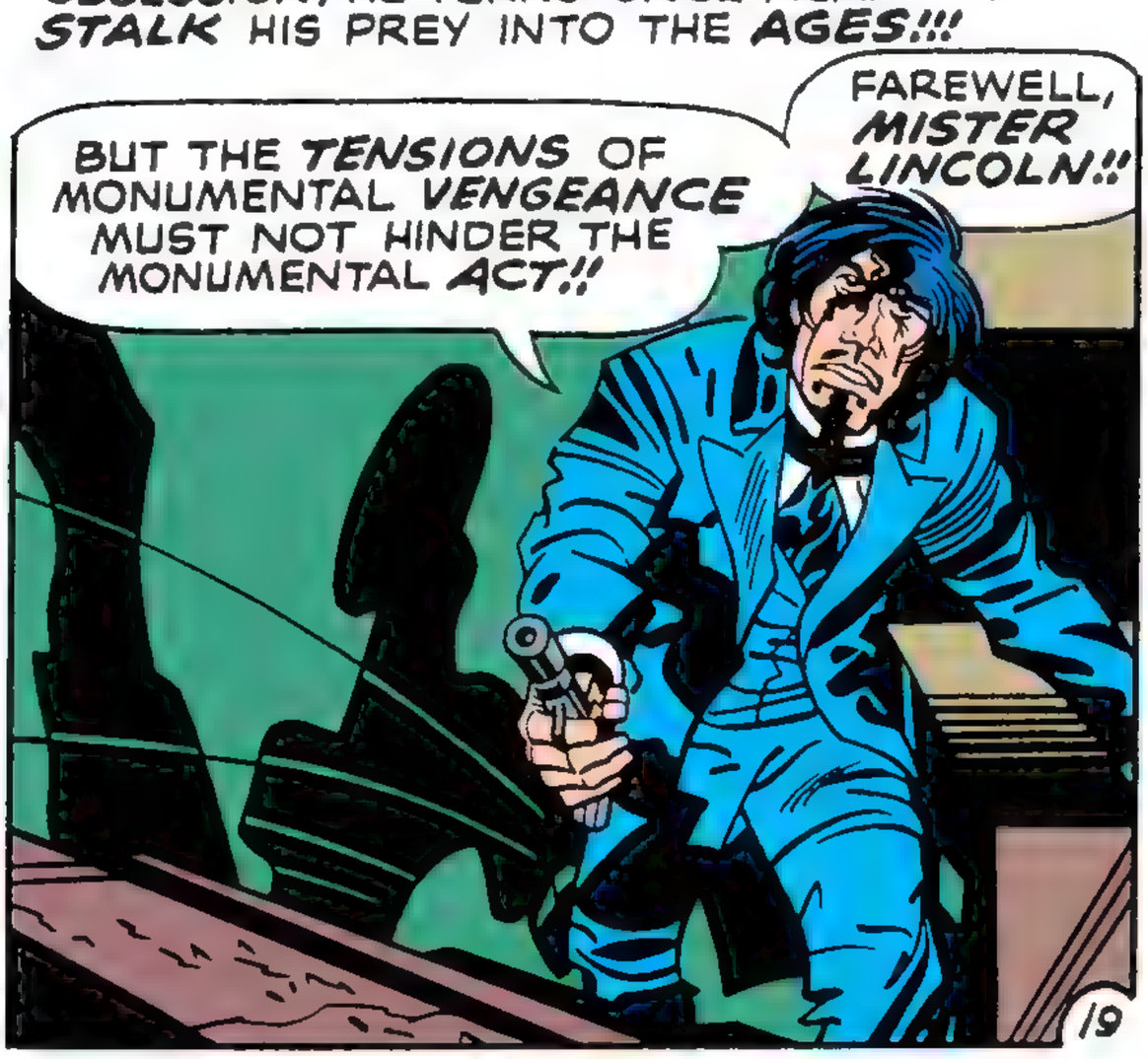
NOW WE MUST BE OUR TRUE SELVES! WE MUST DO WHAT IS TRUE TO HIGHFATHER! WE MUST STOP A KILLING!
OH, NO! THAT OLD MAN--! YOU MEAN THAT SOMEONE WILL TRY TO-?

MOONRIDER! LOOK!!
WHA-!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, SIR!! DON'T GO UP THERE!! YOU MUSTN'T CARRY OUT YOUR PLAN!!

STAND BACK! WHOEVER--OR WHATEVER YOU ARE!!
PLEASE, SIR! GIVE YOURSELF ONE MORE MOMENT TO THINK THIS OUT!!
KLIK!


AT THAT MOMENT, AN ALPHA-BULLET FINDS ITS DESTINED MARK!!
SSKKSH!


THE ASSASSIN EYES A SMALL, FADING PATCH OF LIGHT! HE RUBS HIS EYES AND SAYS--
HALLUCINATIONS! THEY GAVE ME A FRIGHT!!

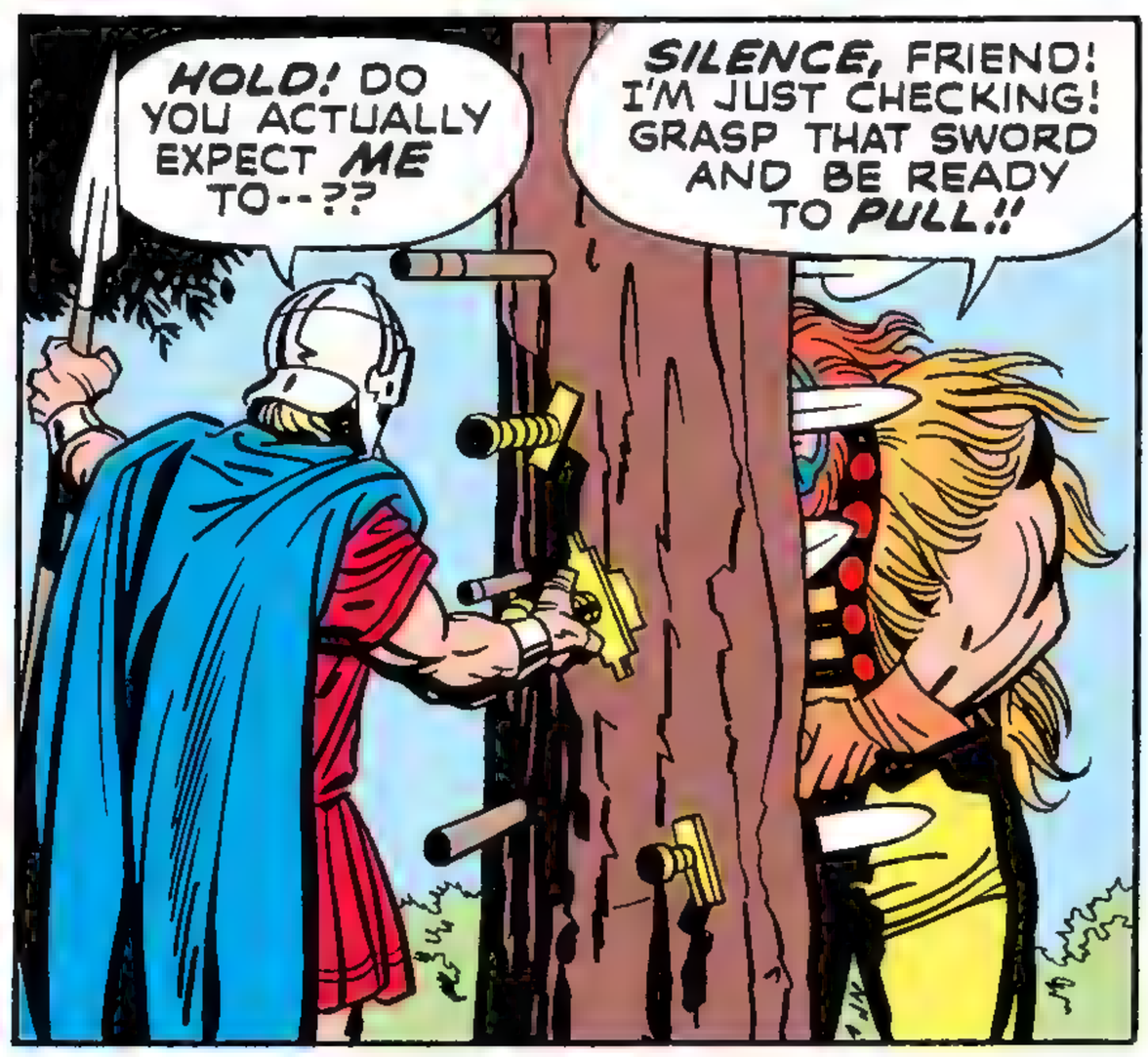

THEN, RELENTLESS AND DRIVEN BY HIS OBSESSION, HE TURNS ONCE AGAIN TO STALK HIS PREY INTO THE AGES!!!
BUT THE TENSIONS OF MONUMENTAL VENGEANCE MUST NOT HINDER THE MONUMENTAL ACT!!
FAREWELL, MISTER LINCOLN!!
19

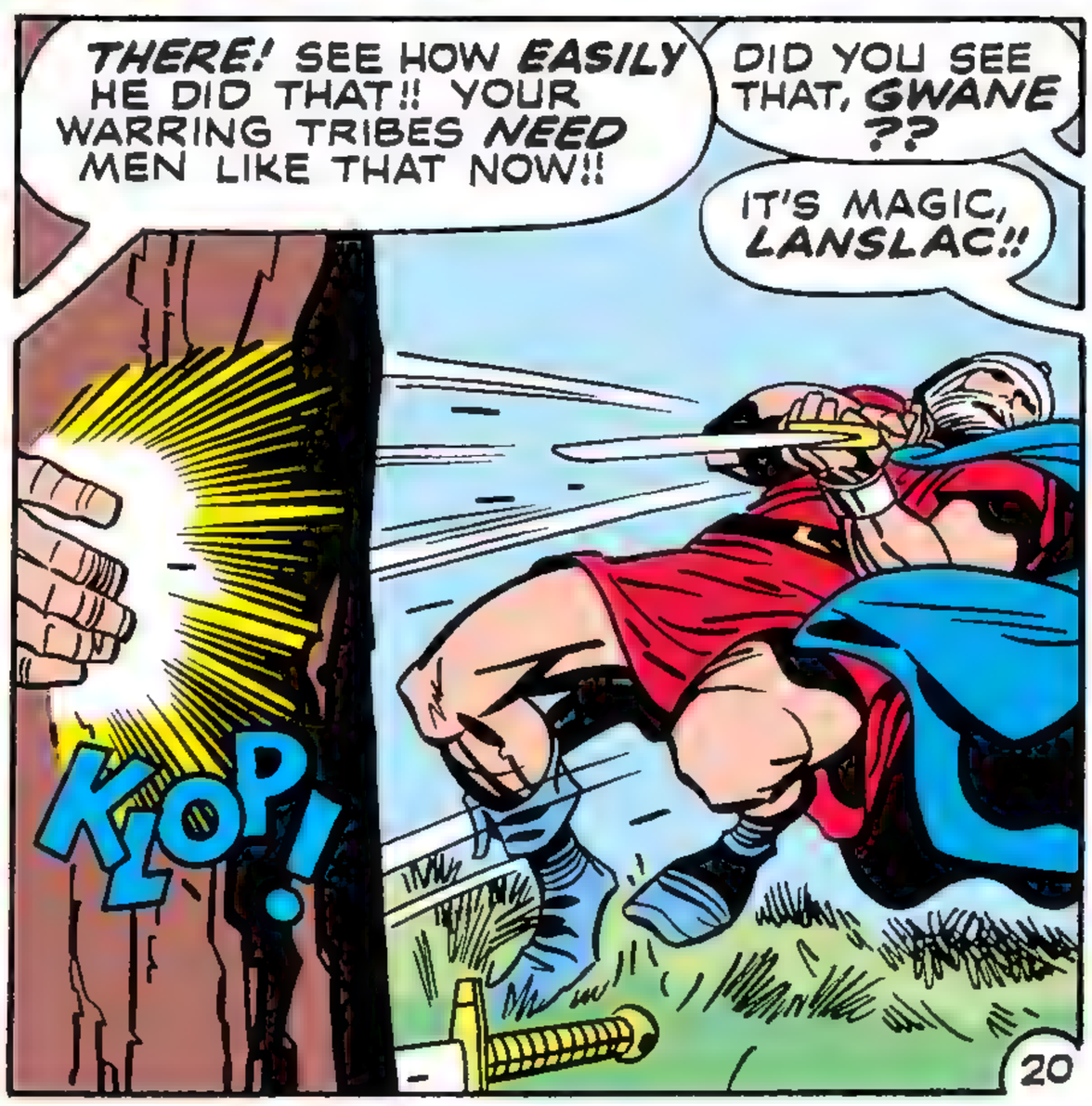
FAR, FAR INTO INFINITY SPEED THE REMAINING ALPHA-BULLETS!! AND ONE IS MEANT FOR BIG BEAR!!

THE ROMANS ARE *GONE!!* MUST YOU FELLOWS *STILL* REMAIN SO TOUCHY!!?

AS LONG AS THEY LEFT FOOLS LIKE *ARTA*, THE SENTRY, BEHIND, THERE'LL BE NO END TO STRIFE!!

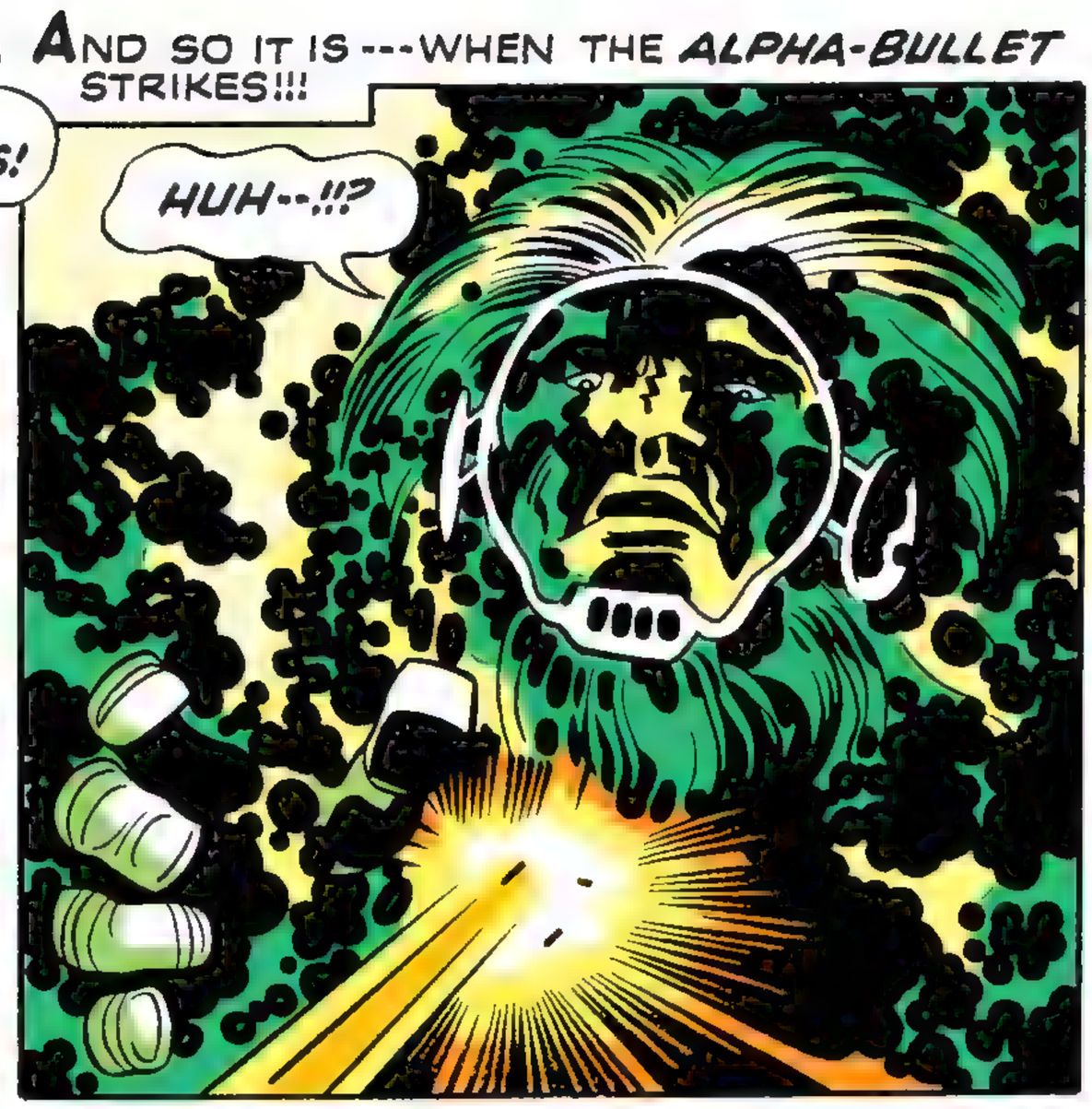
IF WE COULD ONLY *FREE* OUR WEAPONS, WE'LL SOON SETTLE *THIS* GRIEVANCE!!





20

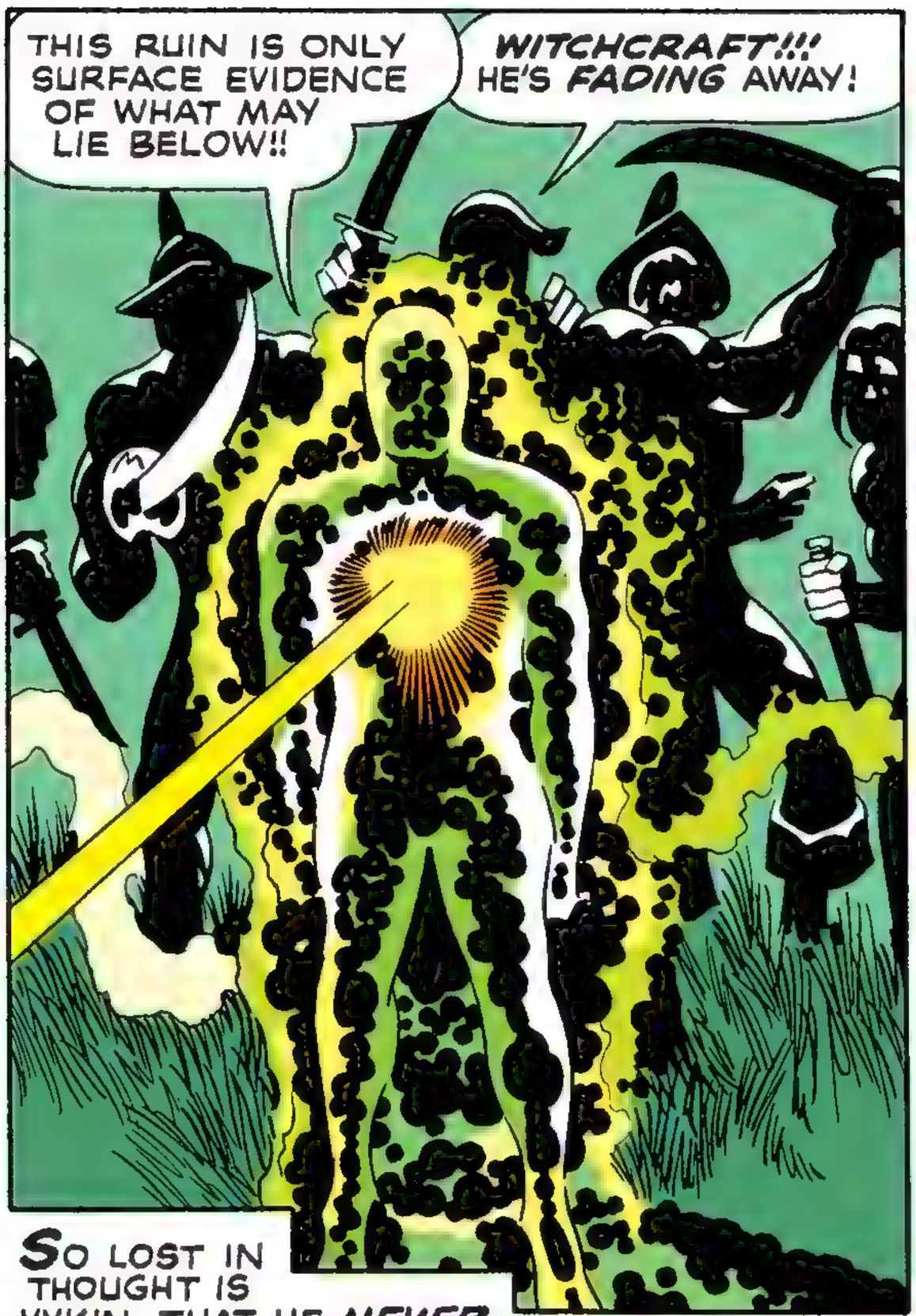
HA! HA! I SAY, "HAIL ARTA--THE WARLOCK'S PET!"
IF HE LIKES HIM--I LIKE HIM!
AND I LIKE HIM!
SEE!! THE WARLOCK VANISHES!


AND SO IT IS---WHEN THE ALPHA-BULLET STRIKES!!!
HUH--!!?

ALPHA-BULLETS NEVER MISS!! THEY FIND THEIR QUARRY---WHEREVER THEY ARE!!
THESE PROBING CIRCUITS HAVE DONE A FINE JOB! THERE'S GOLD IN THAT TEMPLE!
YOU'VE DONE WELL, VYKIN!! THOSE CRUMBLING STONES SHOW SIGNS OF MINING IN THIS AREA!

RICH REWARD IS IN STORE FOR US ALL!! AND YOU SHALL GET YOUR SHARE OF IT!
NO, THANKS!! MY REWARDS LIE IN STUDY!!

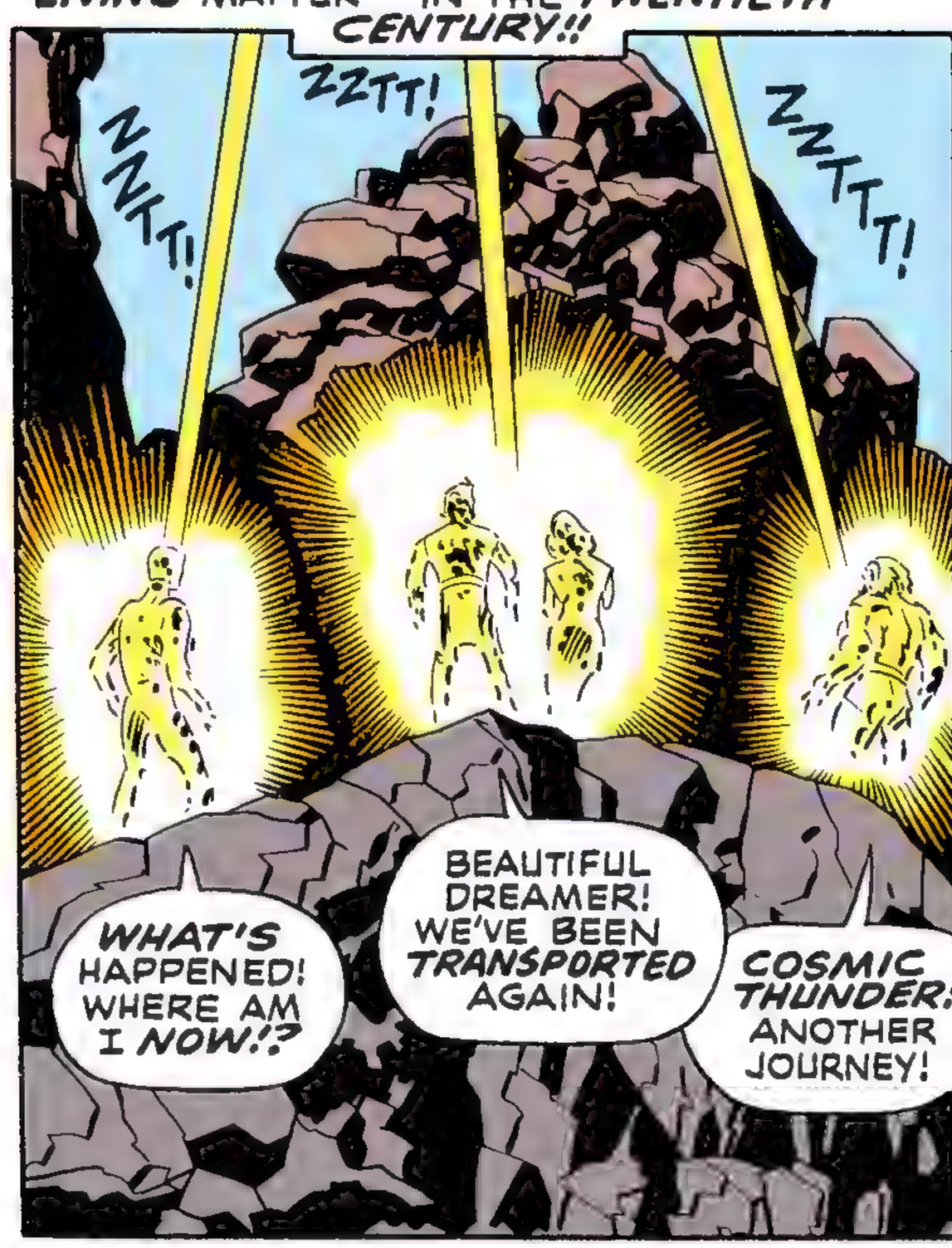
THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE MINING TECHNIQUES OF THE ANCIENTS WHO PASSED HERE ON THEIR WAY FURTHER SOUTH!
ZZTT
21

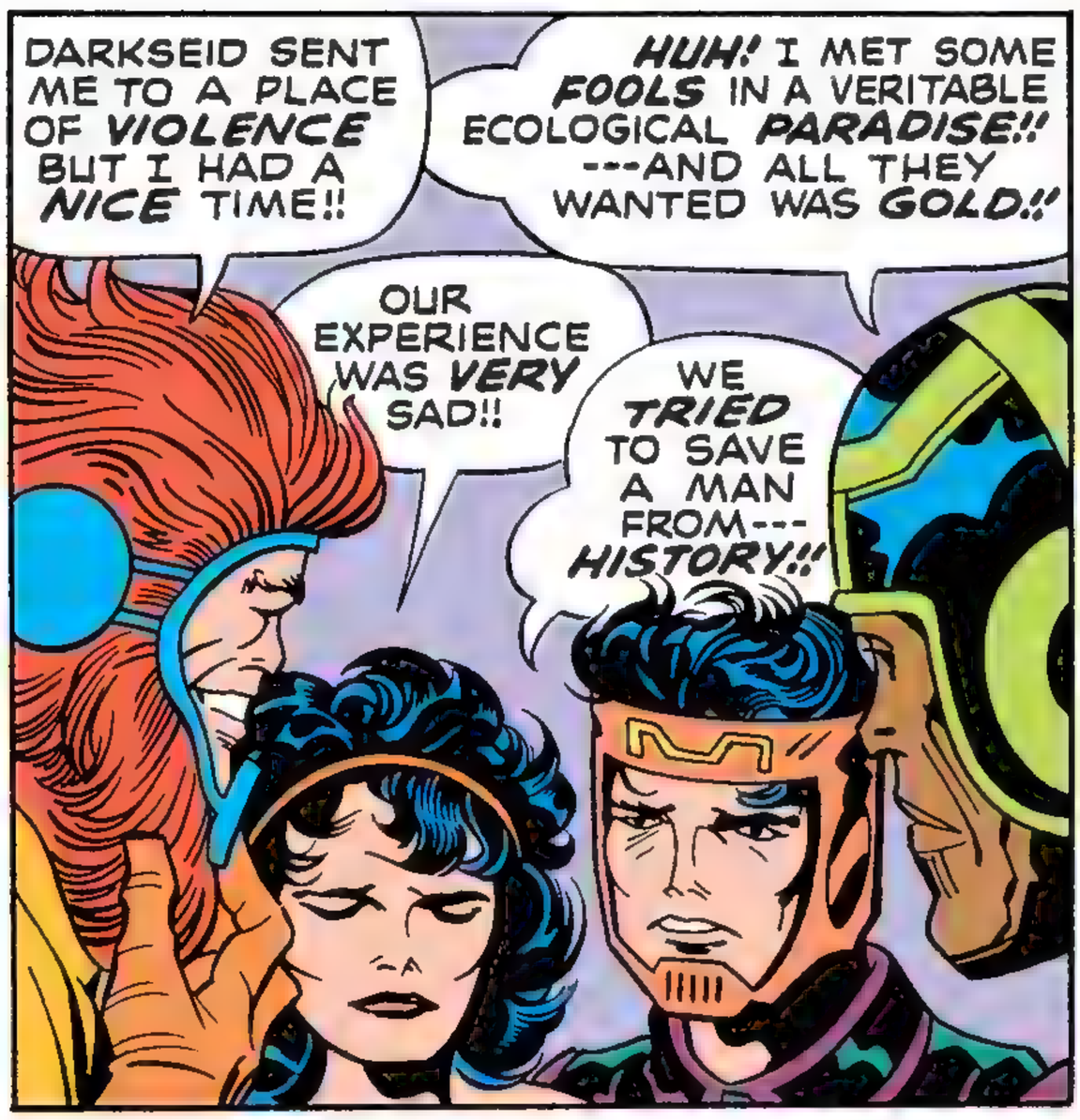


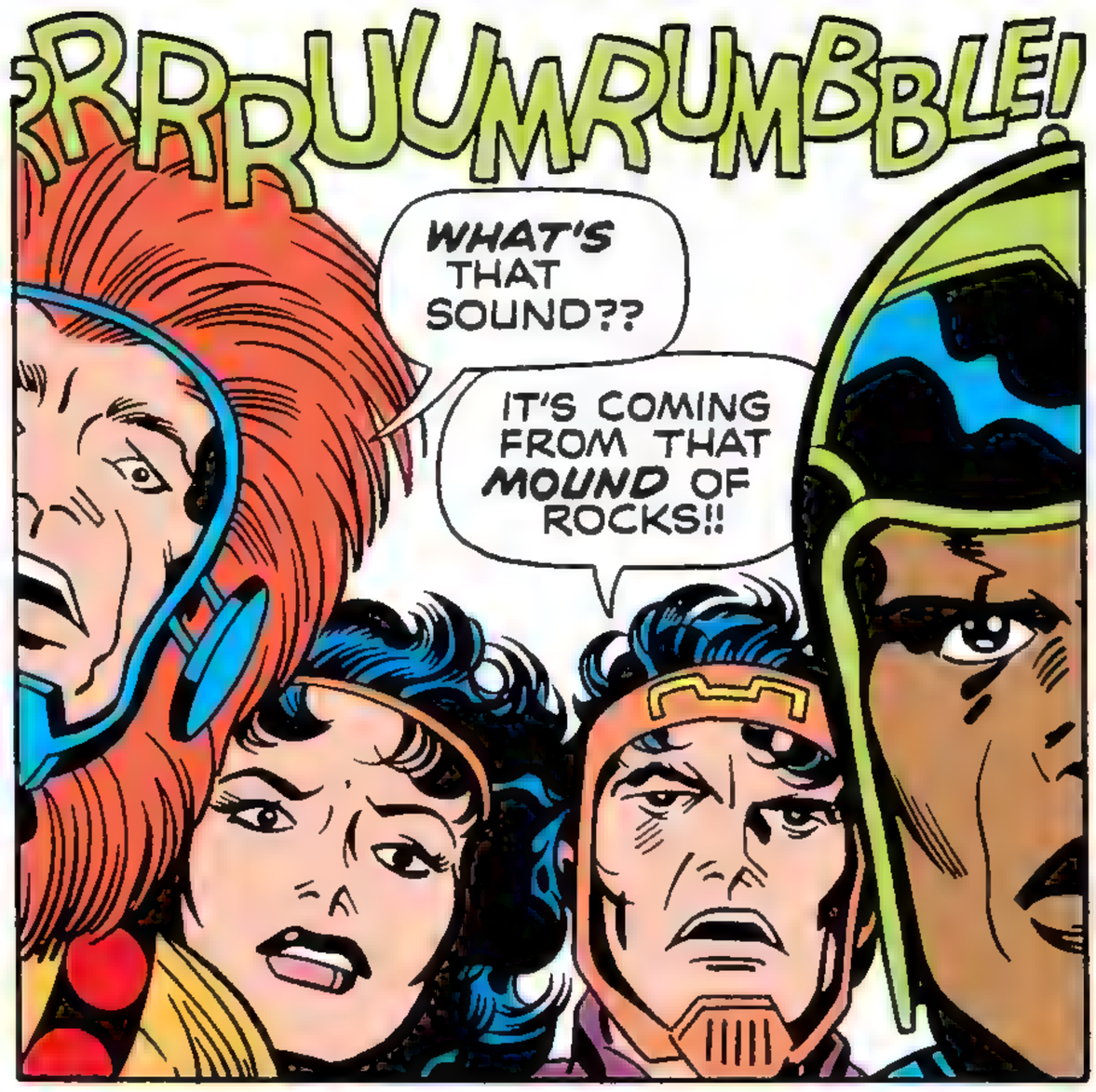
SO LOST IN THOUGHT IS VYKIN, THAT HE NEVER FEELS THE CONTACT OF THE ALPHA-BULLET!! HIS MIND IS SUDDENLY WARY OF WHAT MAY LIE BELOW HIS FEET---!!

BUT HE IS GONE FROM THAT ERA-- WHEN ONE OF THE MANY HIDDEN MINE SHAFTS COLLAPSES AND EXPOSES A SHORTER ROUTE TO THE VALUED GOLD!!

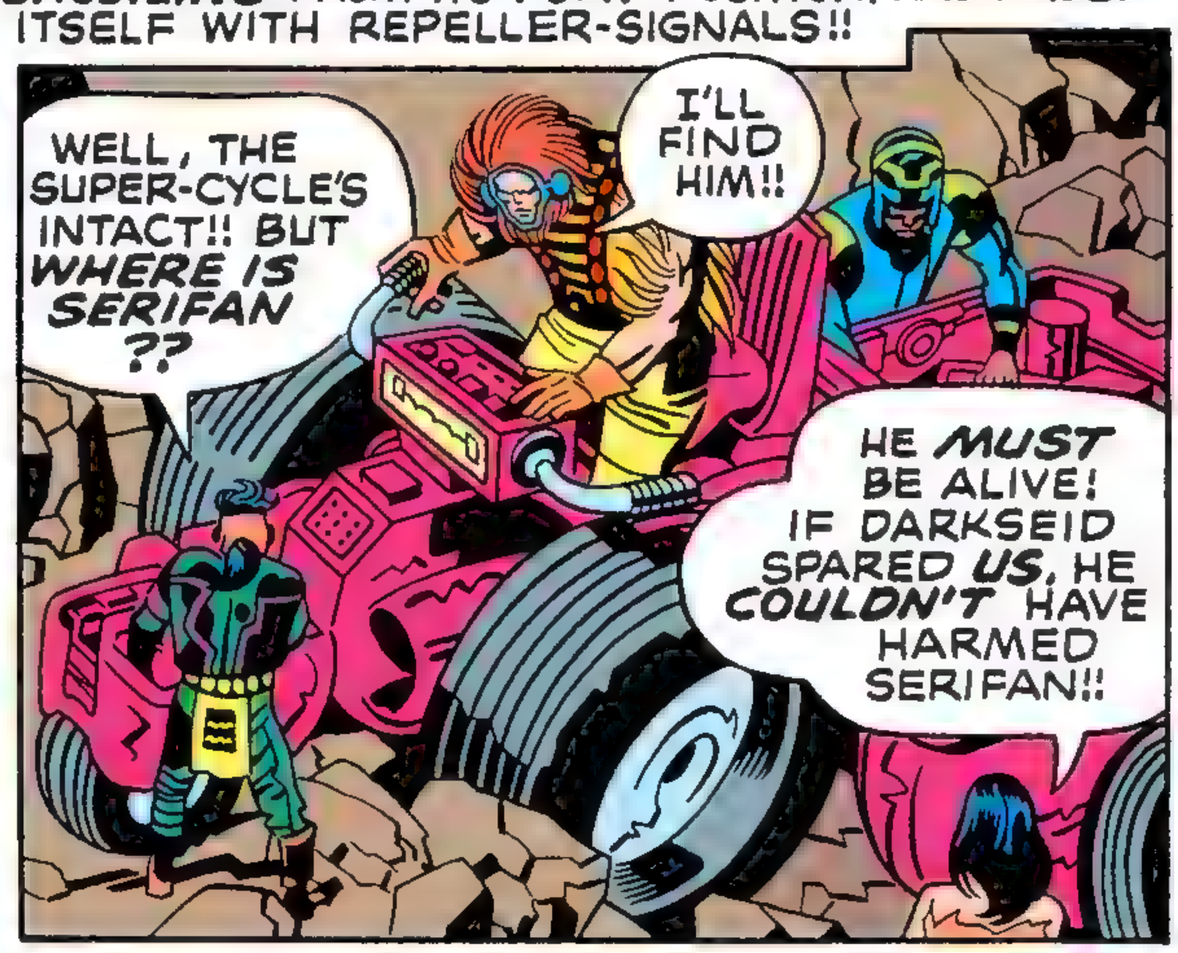
ACROSS A GREAT VASTNESS FLY THE ALPHA-BULLETS---TO DOVE-TAIL AND EXPLODE WITH LIVING MATTER--- IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY!!

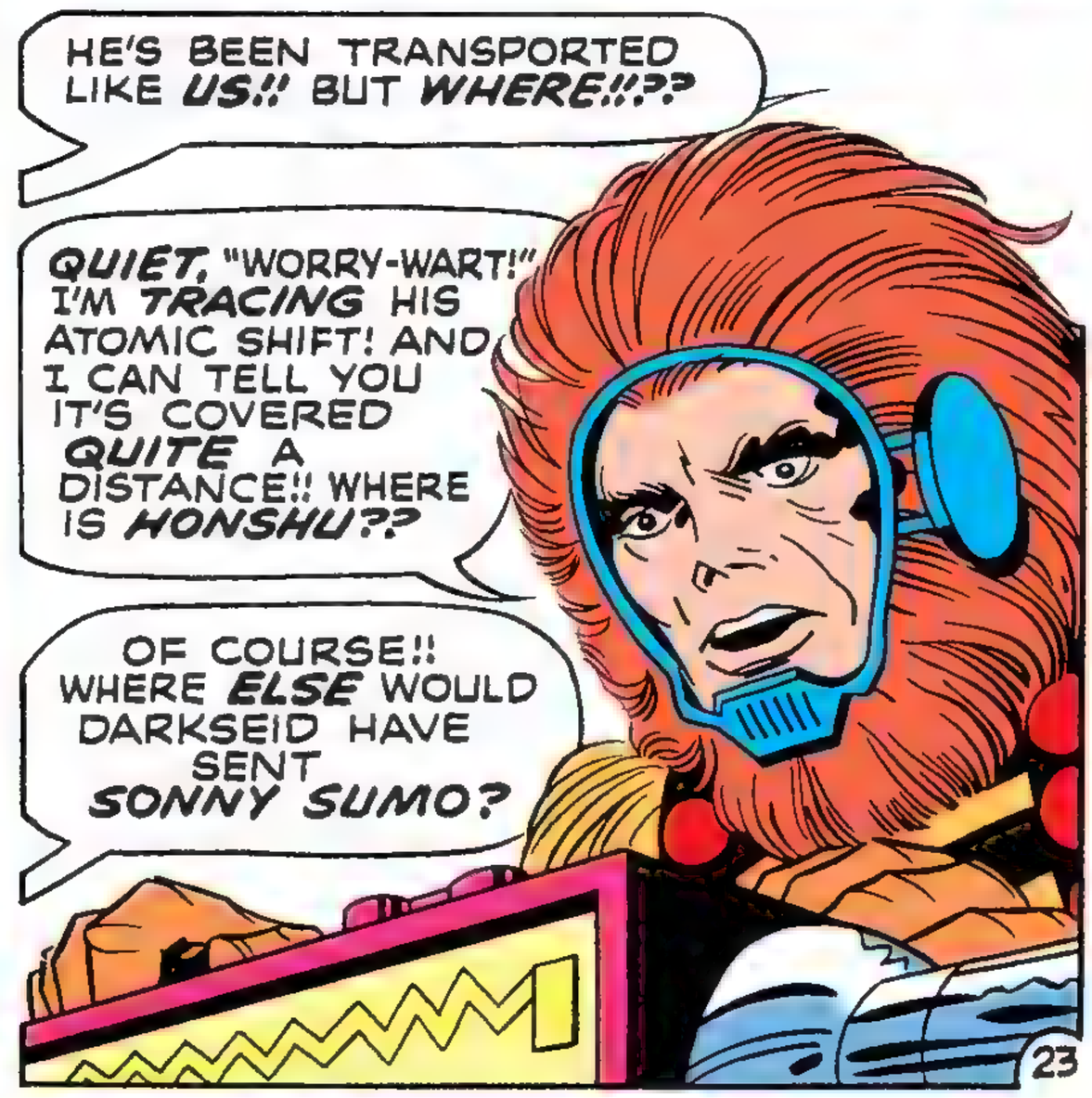




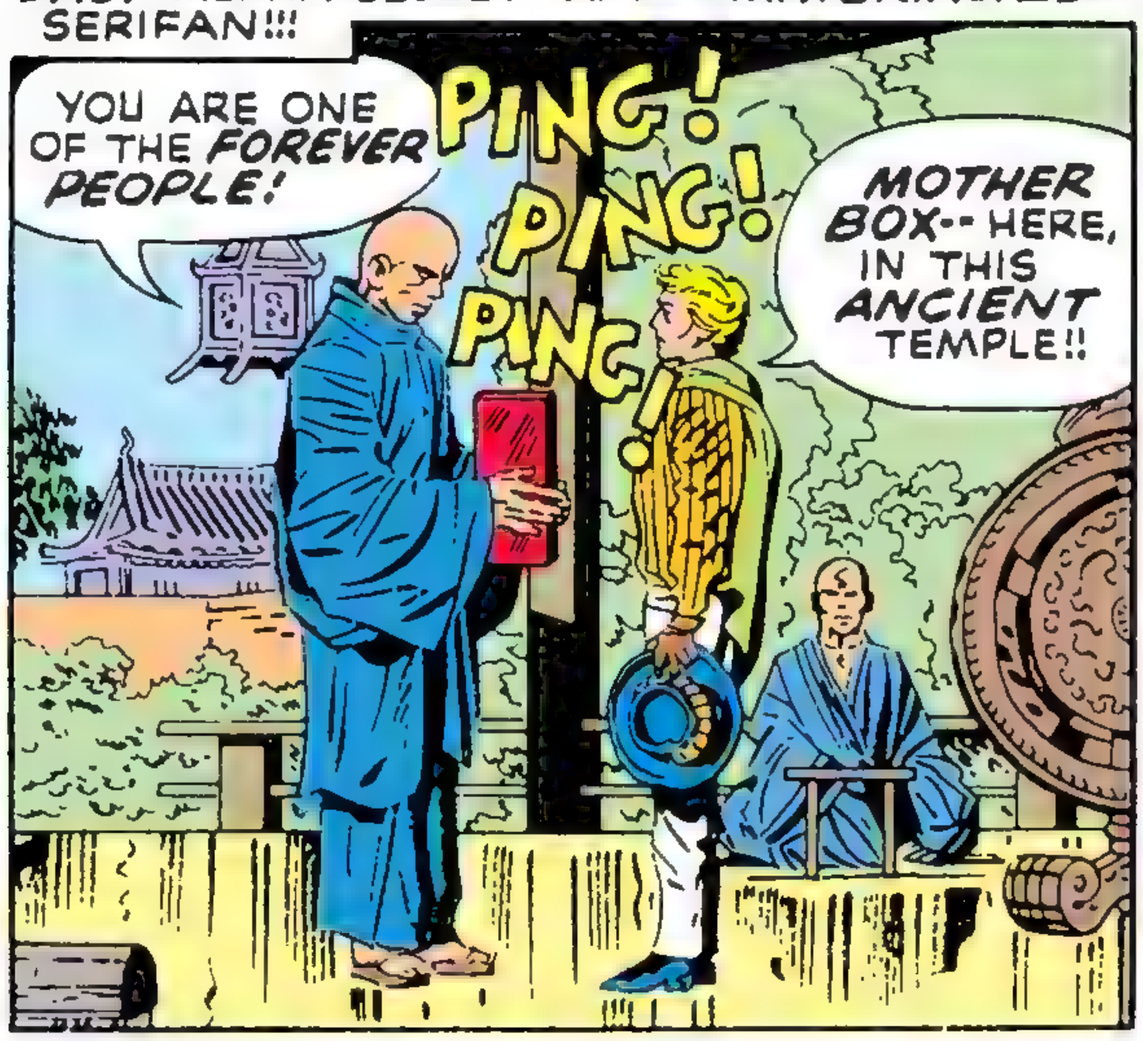


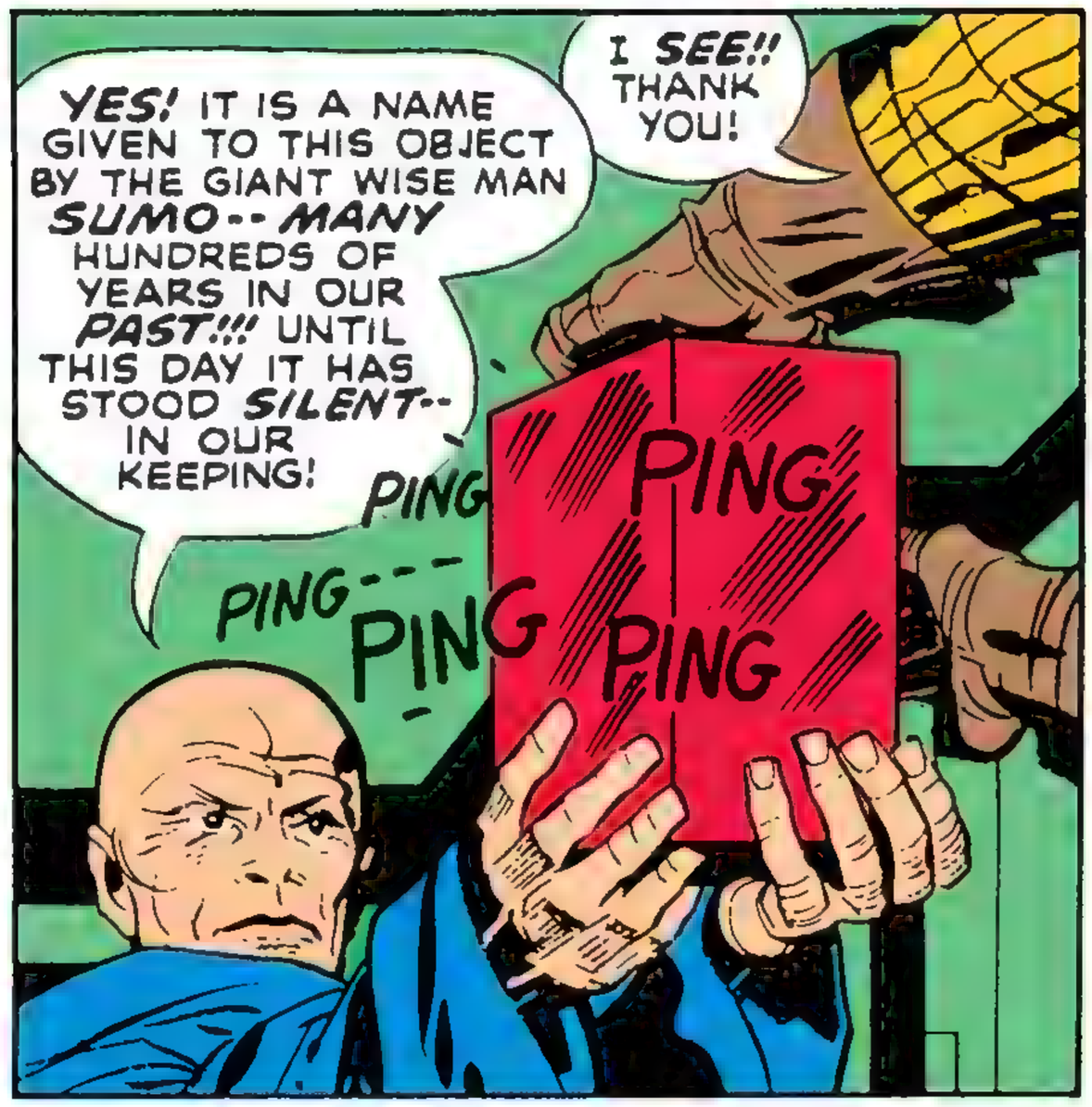
BENEATH THE PILED STONE, THE *SUPER-CYCLE* HAD RECORDED THE *RETURN* OF ITS CREW, AND *UNCOILING* FROM ITS *FORT* POSITION, HAD *FREED* ITSELF WITH REPELLER-SIGNALS!!

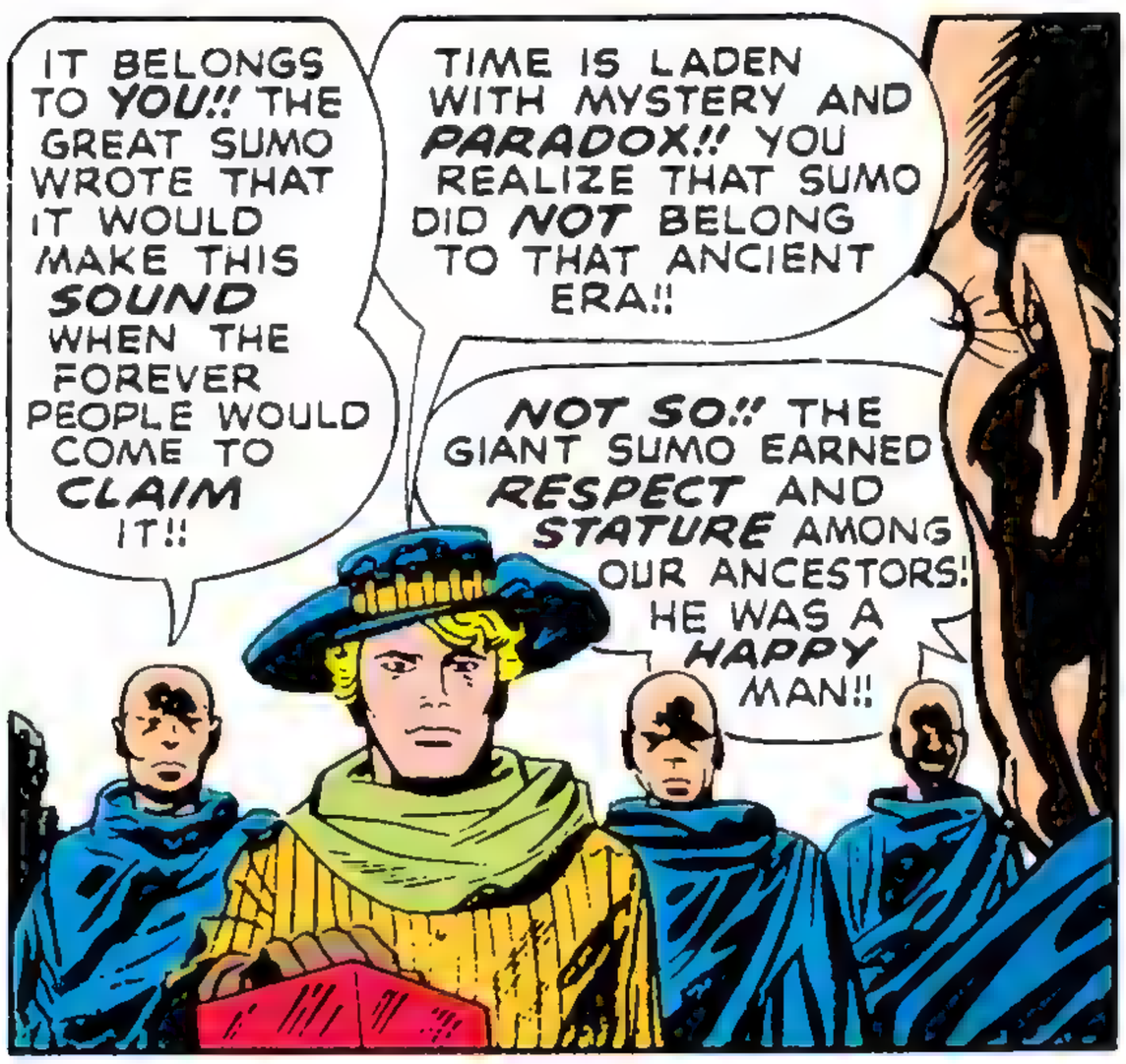


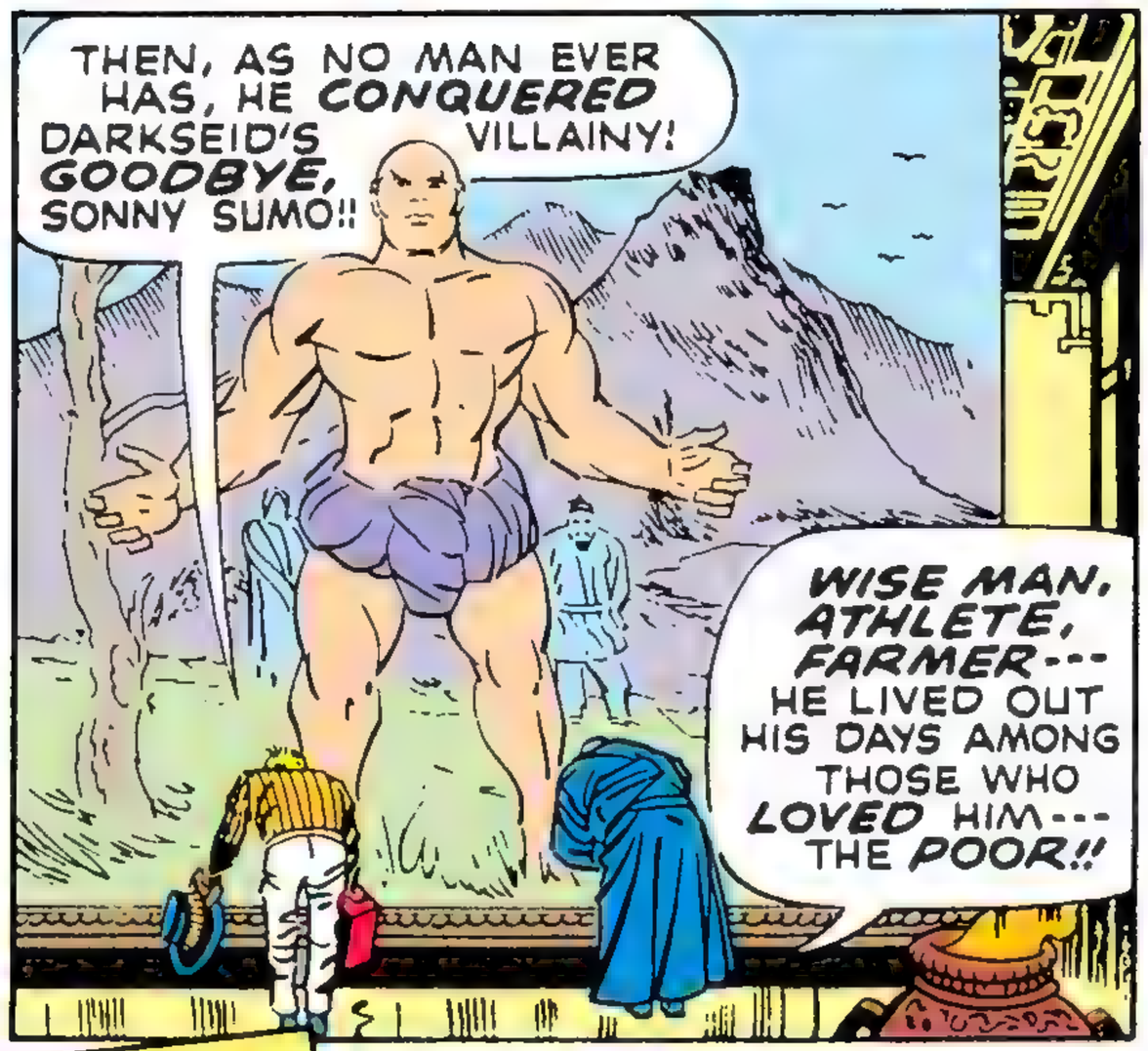


HONSHU, ONE OF THE THREE *GREAT* ISLANDS KNOWN TO US AS *JAPAN*, HAS RECEIVED THE *LAST* ALPHA BULLET--AND A *MATERIALIZED* SERIFAN!!!

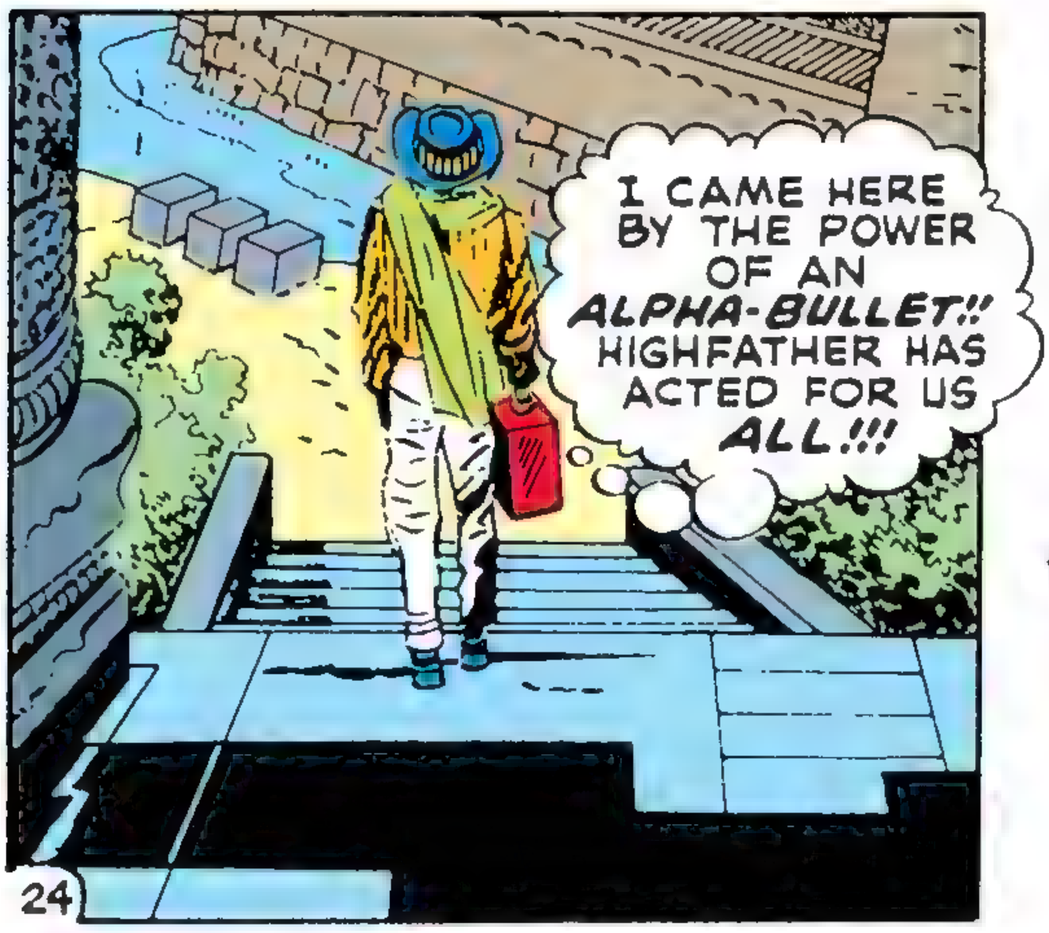








AND THUS DO *ALPHA* AND *OMEGA* REVOLVE ON THE WHEEL OF DESTINY!! SERIFAN *LEAVES* THE TEMPLE, KNOWING THAT THESE TURN OF EVENTS HERALD A *REUNION* WITH HIS FRIENDS!!



NEXT!

EXPOSED IN ALL ITS HORRIFYING AND MALIGNANT MACHINATION!!

--- THE MIND SOUGHT BY GREAT DARKSEID HIMSELF!!! SEE THE STRANGE AND TRUE POSSESSOR OF THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!!

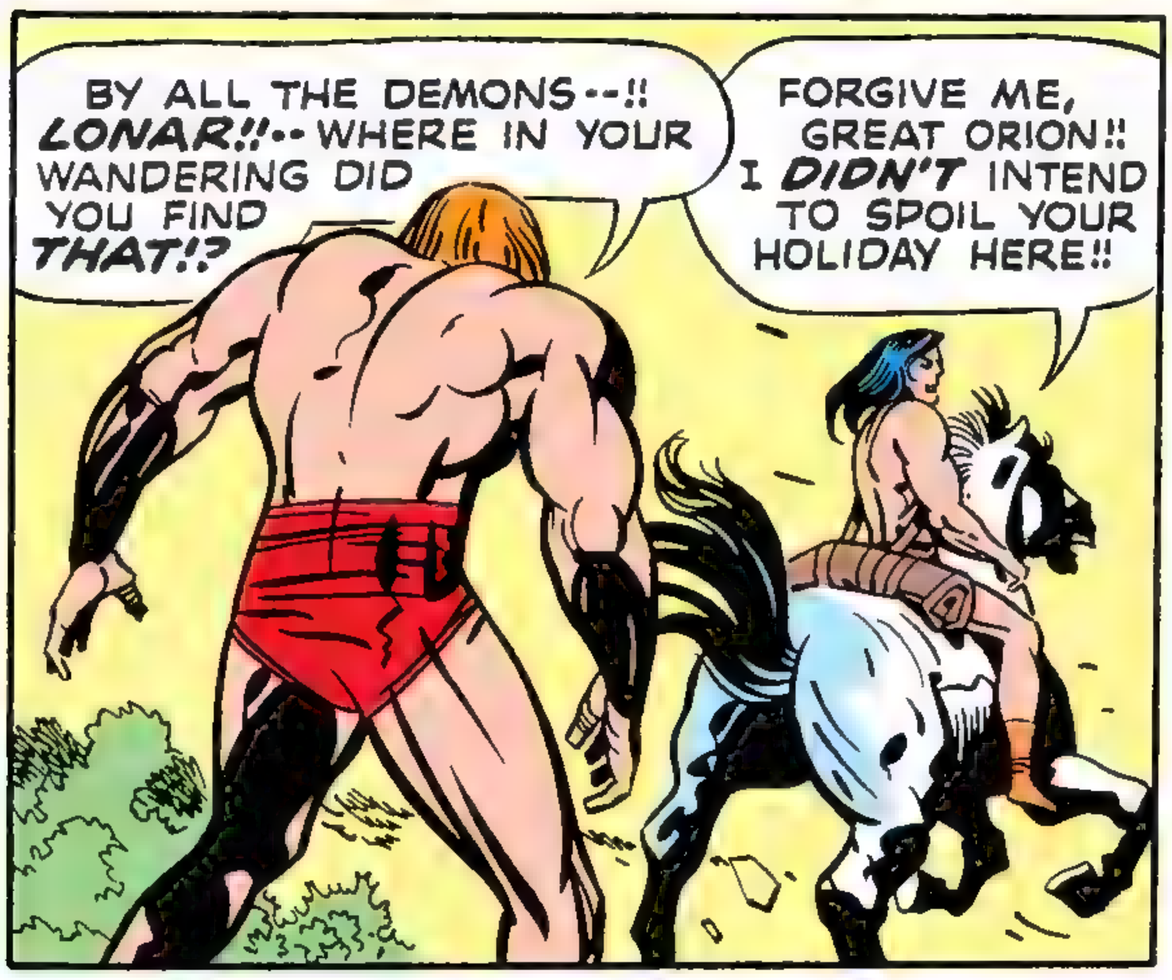
THE MIND THAT WIELDS--

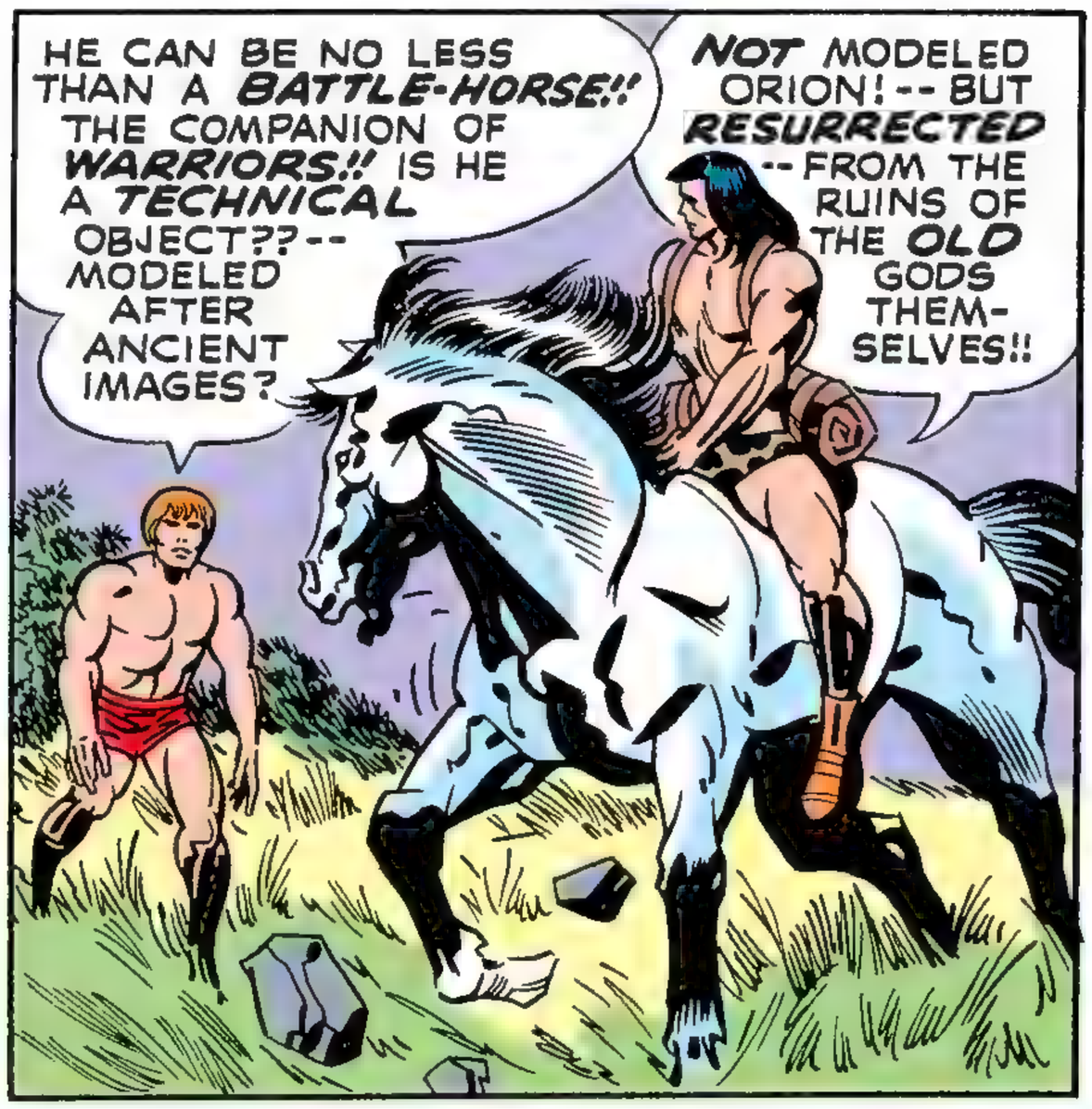
THE POWER!

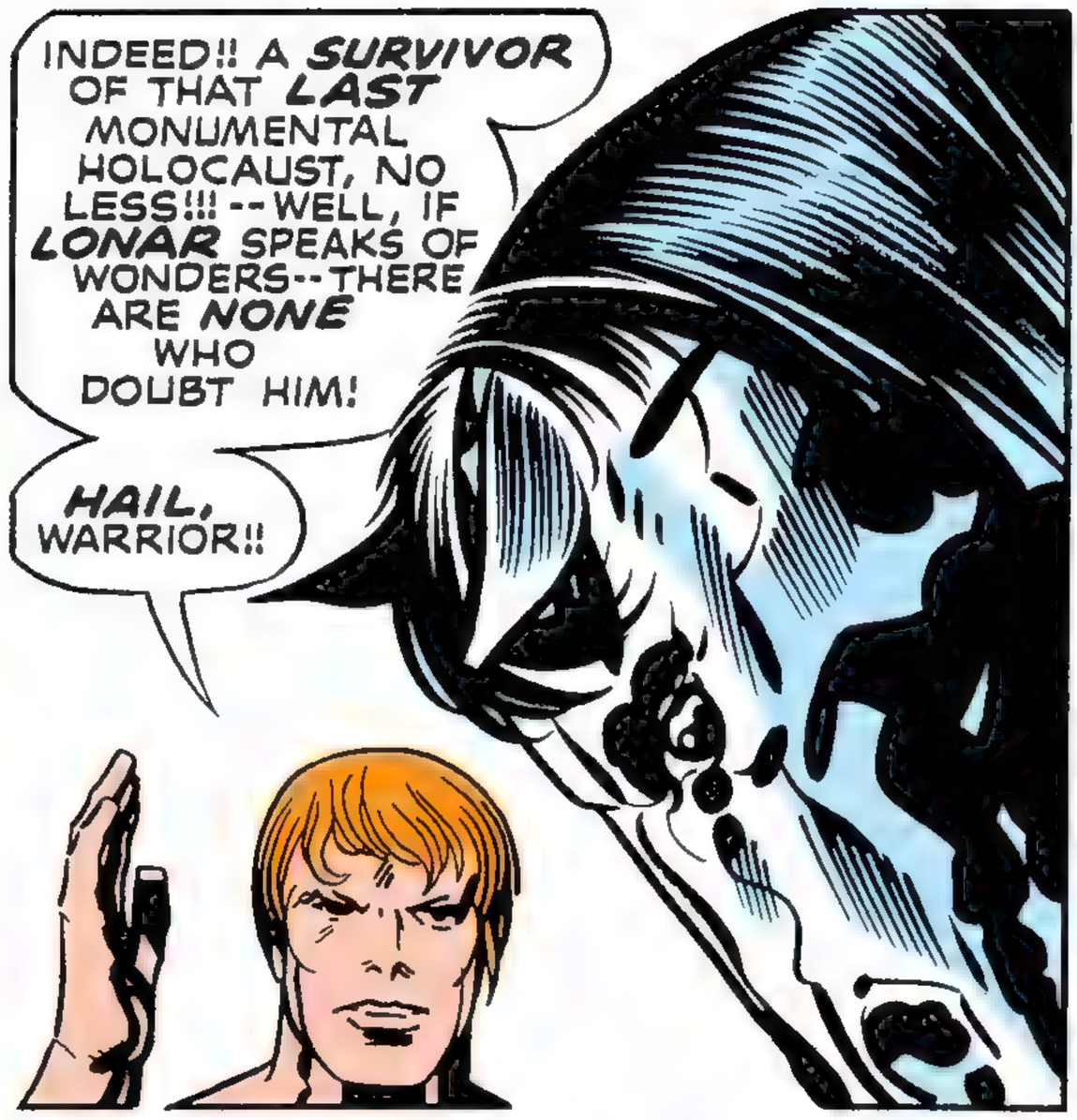
LONAR OF NEW GENESIS

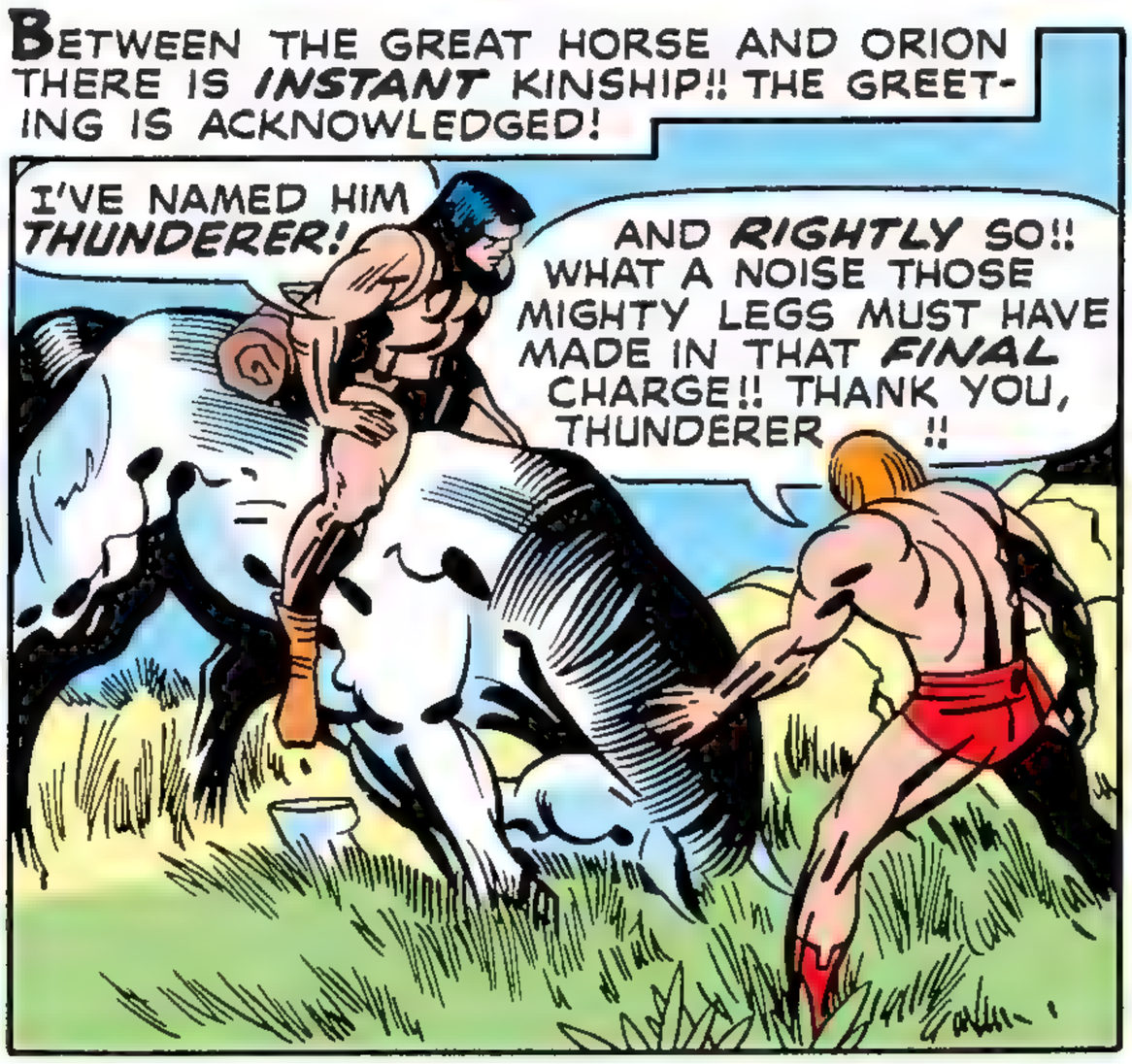
AND HIS BATTLE-HORSE THUNDERER!!!

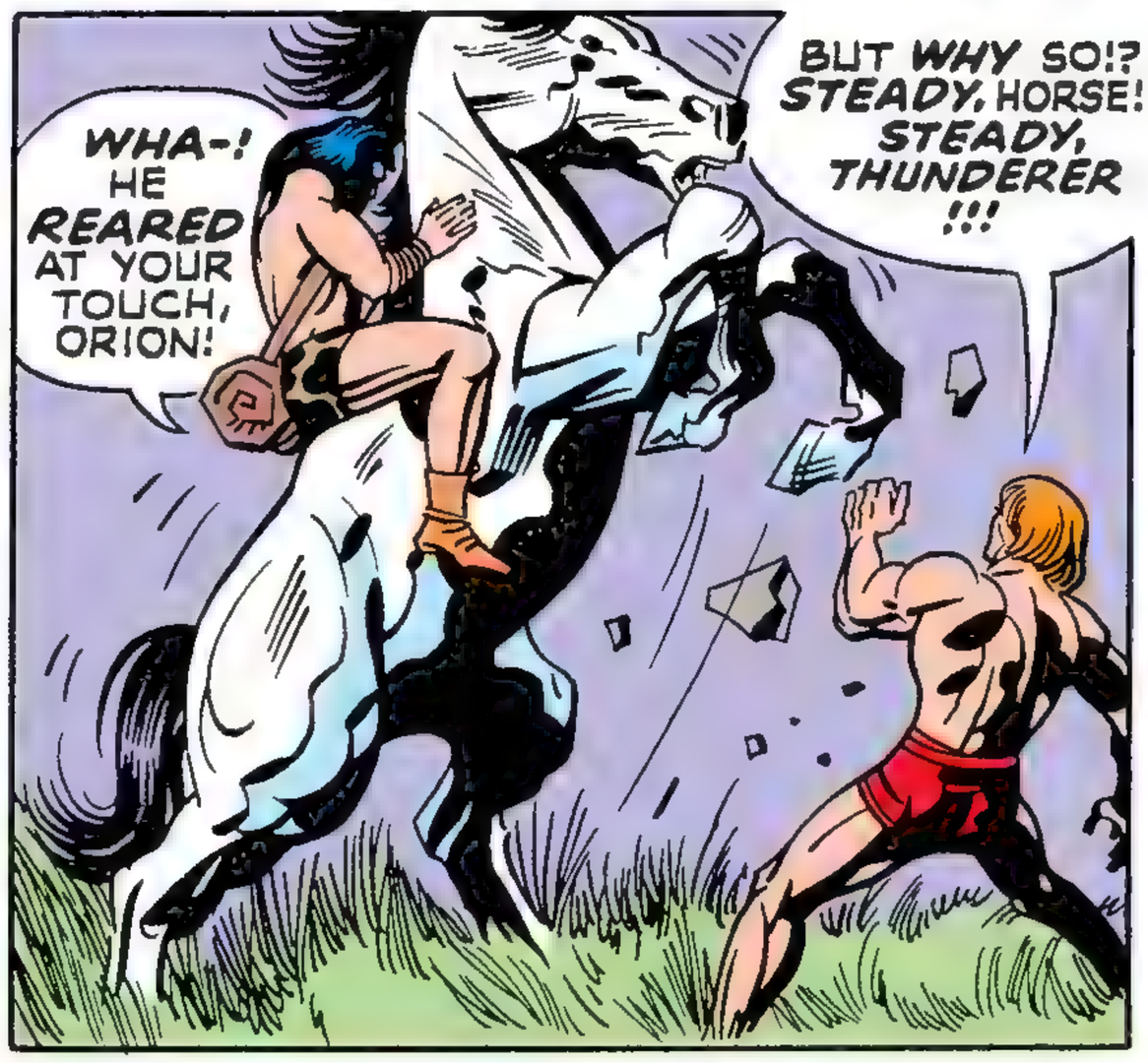
IN THE DAYS OF ***SERENITY,*** BEFORE DARKSEID DREW NEW GENESIS INTO WAR, ORION SPENT TIME ON THE GREEN MOTHER WORLD TO CONTEMPLATE THE TROUBLES ***INSIDE*** HIM!!

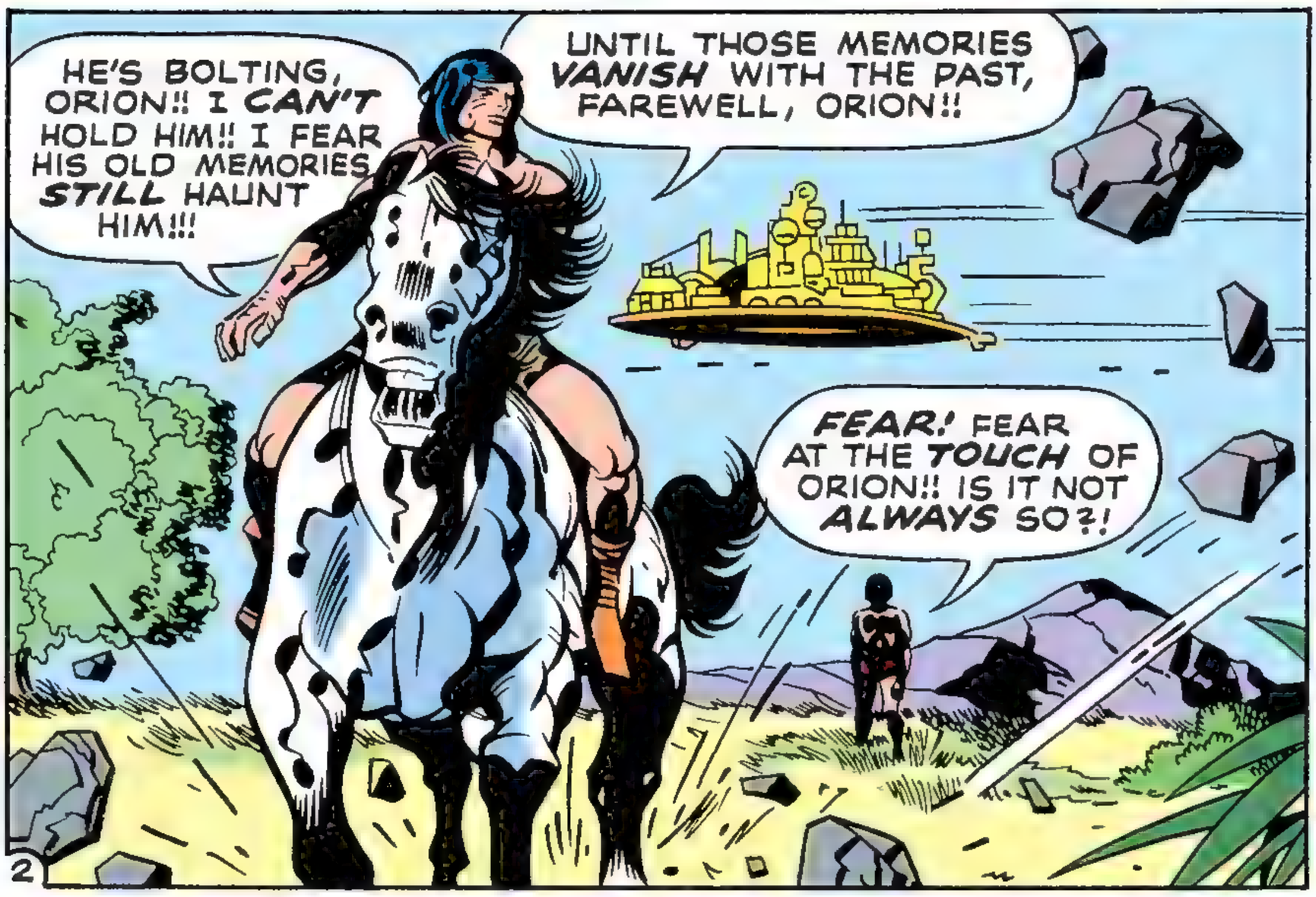








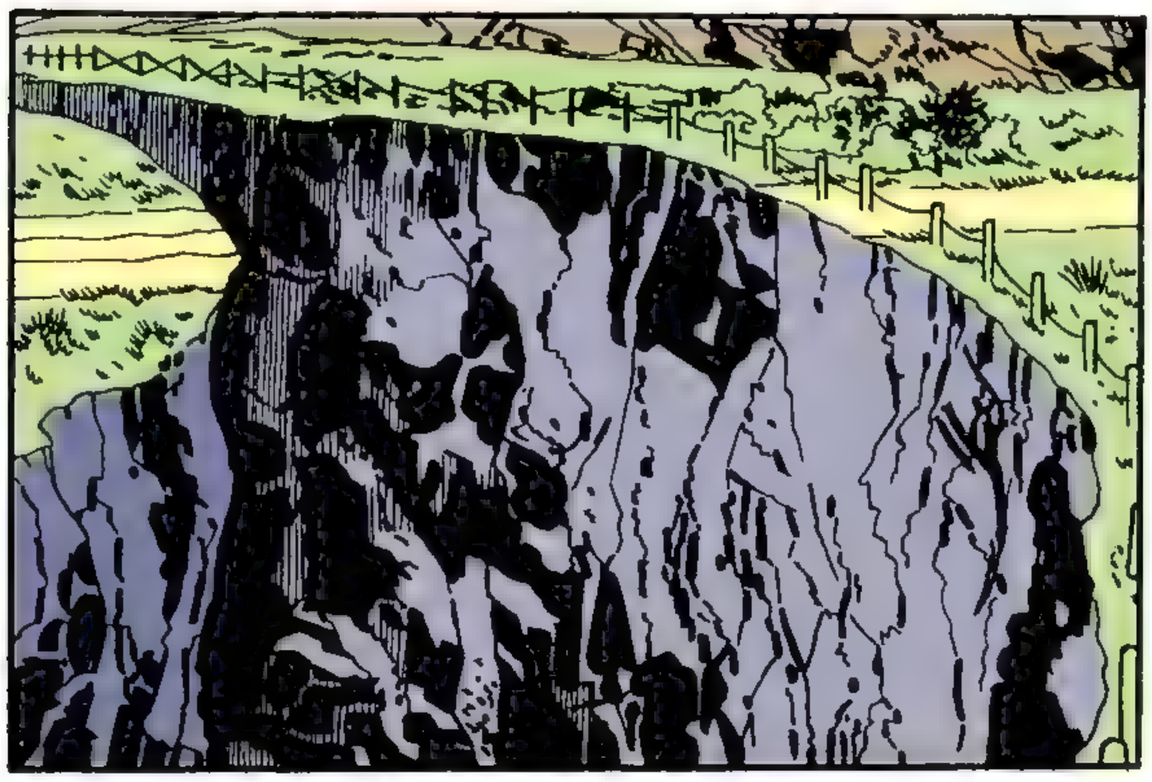




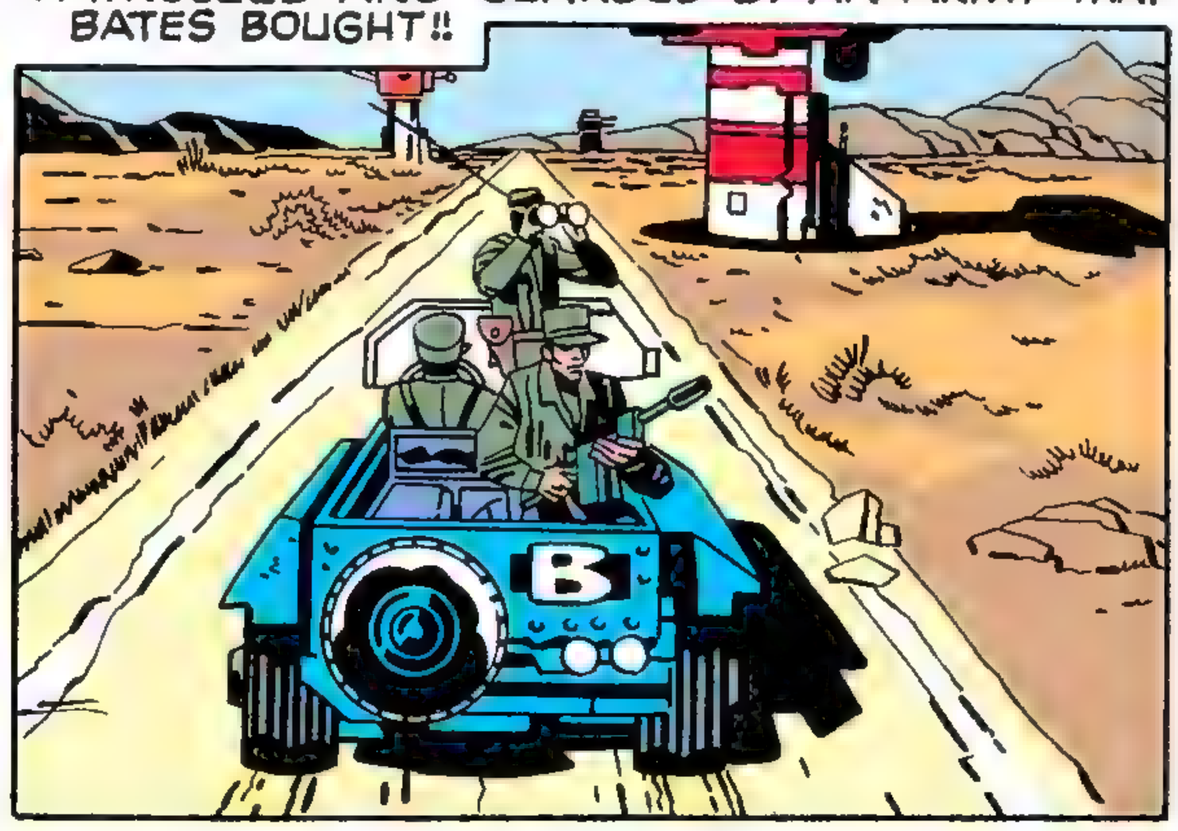
IS IT NOT ALWAYS SO? WHAT DOES ORION AWAKEN IN ALL LIVING BEINGS THAT FOR ONE FLEETING MOMENT LINKS THEIR SPIRITS WITH HIS!!?? IT'S ONE AMONG MANY NATURAL MYSTERIES THAT LURE LONAR TO A LIFE OF WANDERING!! HE MUST LEARN ALL BY SEEING AND FEELING AND PERHAPS SUFFERING WITH LIFE AROUND HIM!! TO LONAR--- A BLADE OF GRASS--A HORSE--A FIERCE GOD OF WAR-- ARE ETERNAL LINKS IN THE CHAIN OF TRUTH!!

DC THE FOREVER PEOPLE
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
52 BIG pages DON'T TAKE LESS!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 8
MAY
30490
"The PRISONERS OF THE POWER!"
PLUS SANDMAN in "DREAMS OF DOOM!"

THIS IS THE BARRIER THAT BATES BUILT!! IT'S LONG AND WIDE AND DEEP AND EXPENSIVE! BUT IT KEEPS VISITORS FAR FROM THE GATES WHERE BATES LIVES!!



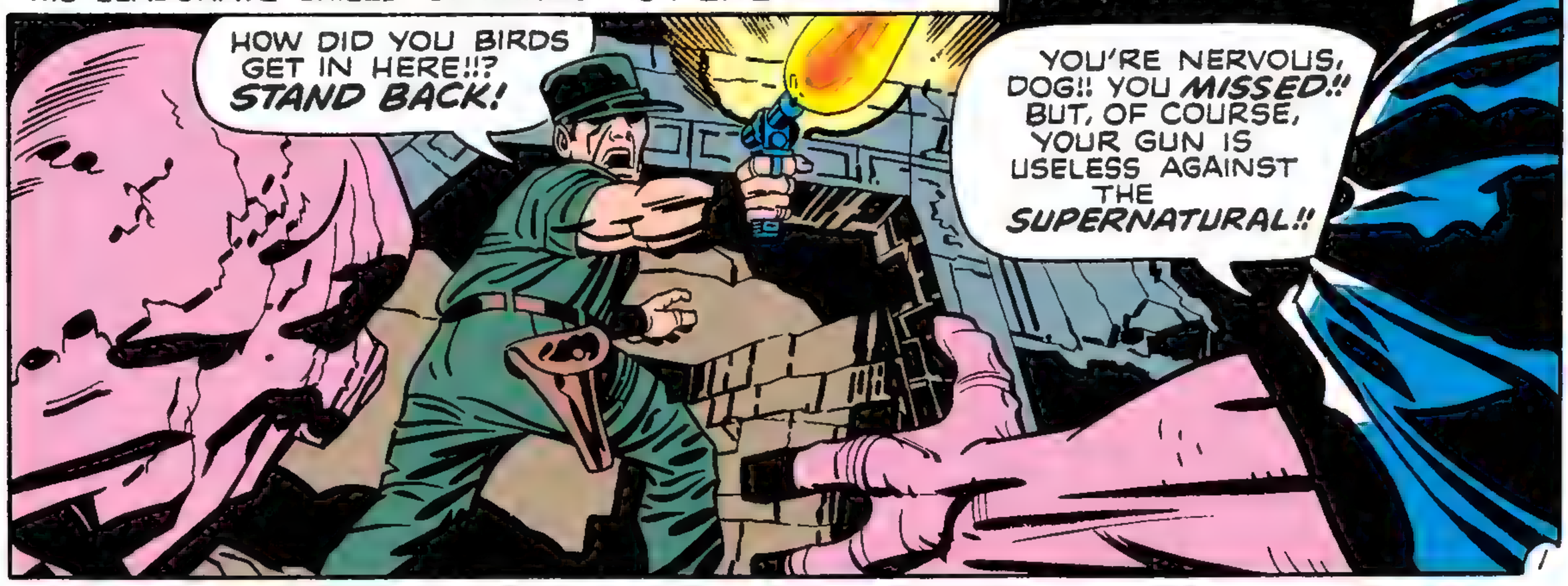
THIS IS THE VAST WASTELAND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BARRIER THAT BATES OWNS! IT'S PATROLLED AND GUARDED BY AN ARMY THAT BATES BOUGHT!!



AND AS WE GET CLOSER TO BATES' GATES, WE PASS THROUGH THE TOWN THAT'S EMPTY OF ALL WHOM BATES DIDN'T WANT!! AND THAT WAS EVERYBODY WHO LIVED THERE!!

BUT *BEYOND* THE GATES OF BATES' ESTATES LIES THE MYSTERY THAT LURKS IN THE LOVELY, SPRAWLING, CRAWLING SILENCE!!!

IT'S BELOW, IN THE DEPTHS BENEATH THE ESTATES THAT BELONG TO BATES, WHERE HIS ELABORATE SHIELD OF PRIVACY IS *PENETRATED!!!*



SHOT AFTER SHOT BLASTS THROUGH THE DAMP, COLD *DARKNESS* OF THE *EERIE* HOLLOWS THAT REACH OUT LIKE CROOKED SPIDERS IN THE EARTH BELOW!! THE SECRETS THAT SURROUND THE NAME OF BATES ARE UNDER *ASSAULT* BY STRANGE *INVADERS*---*FOR THESE SECRETS HIDE A MAN IN POSSESSION OF A FORCE OF TERRIFYING MAGNITUDE*---*THE MAN WITH*---

YOU SAW US *MATERIALIZE!!*-- AND PUT ON THE MASKS AND COSTUMES OF THE *SECT!!*

WE'RE *NEW* DISCIPLES!! WE'RE HERE TO *HONOR* MISTER BATES!!

YOU'RE UP TO *NO* GOOD!! LET ME GO! *LET ME GO!!*

FOOL!! THE POWER OF OUR *TOUCH* IS ENOUGH TO *DESTROY* YOUR WEAPON!!

AAAAA!!

WAM

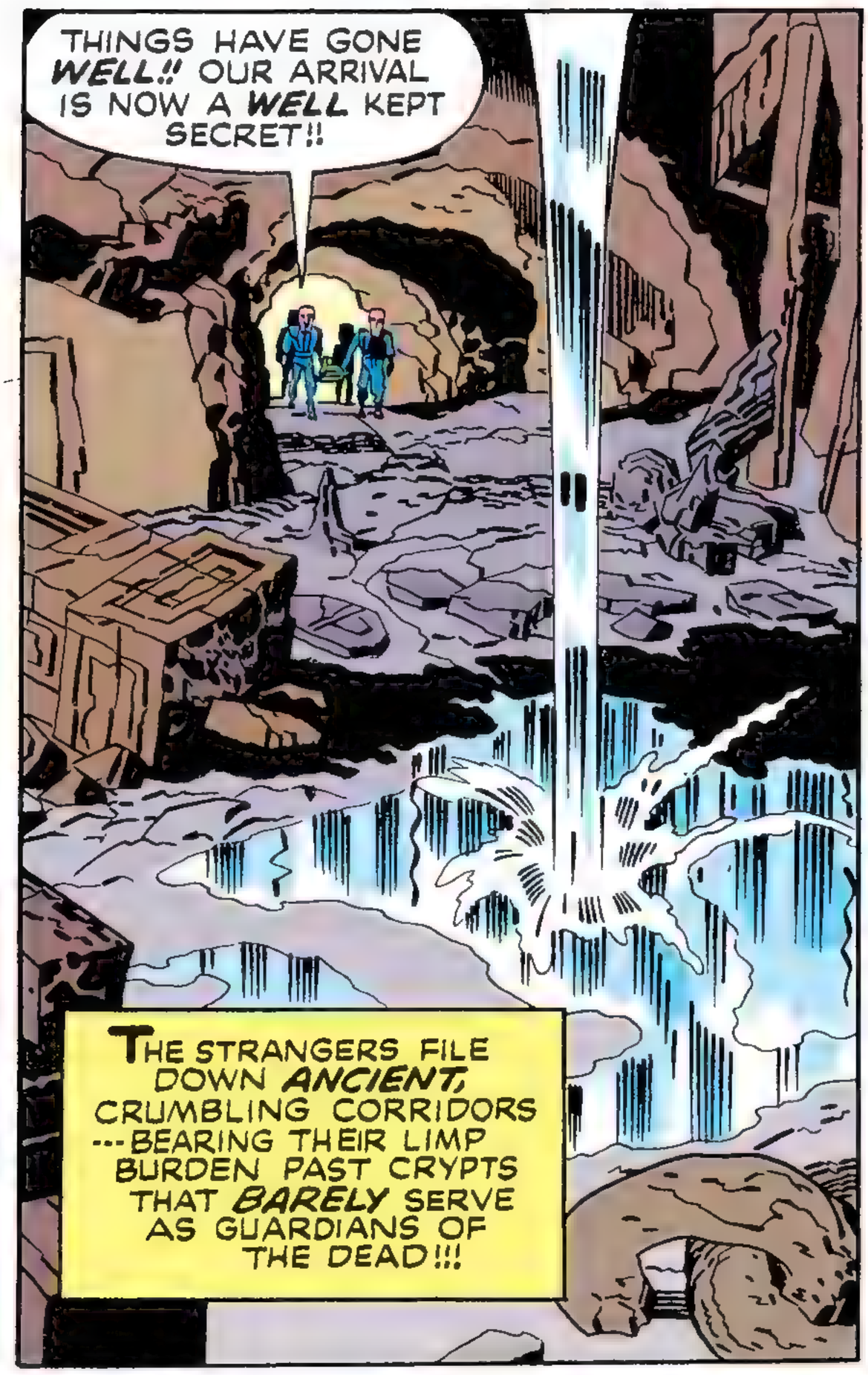
BUT YOUR CATERWAULING DESERVES MORE *SEVERE* RESPONSE!!

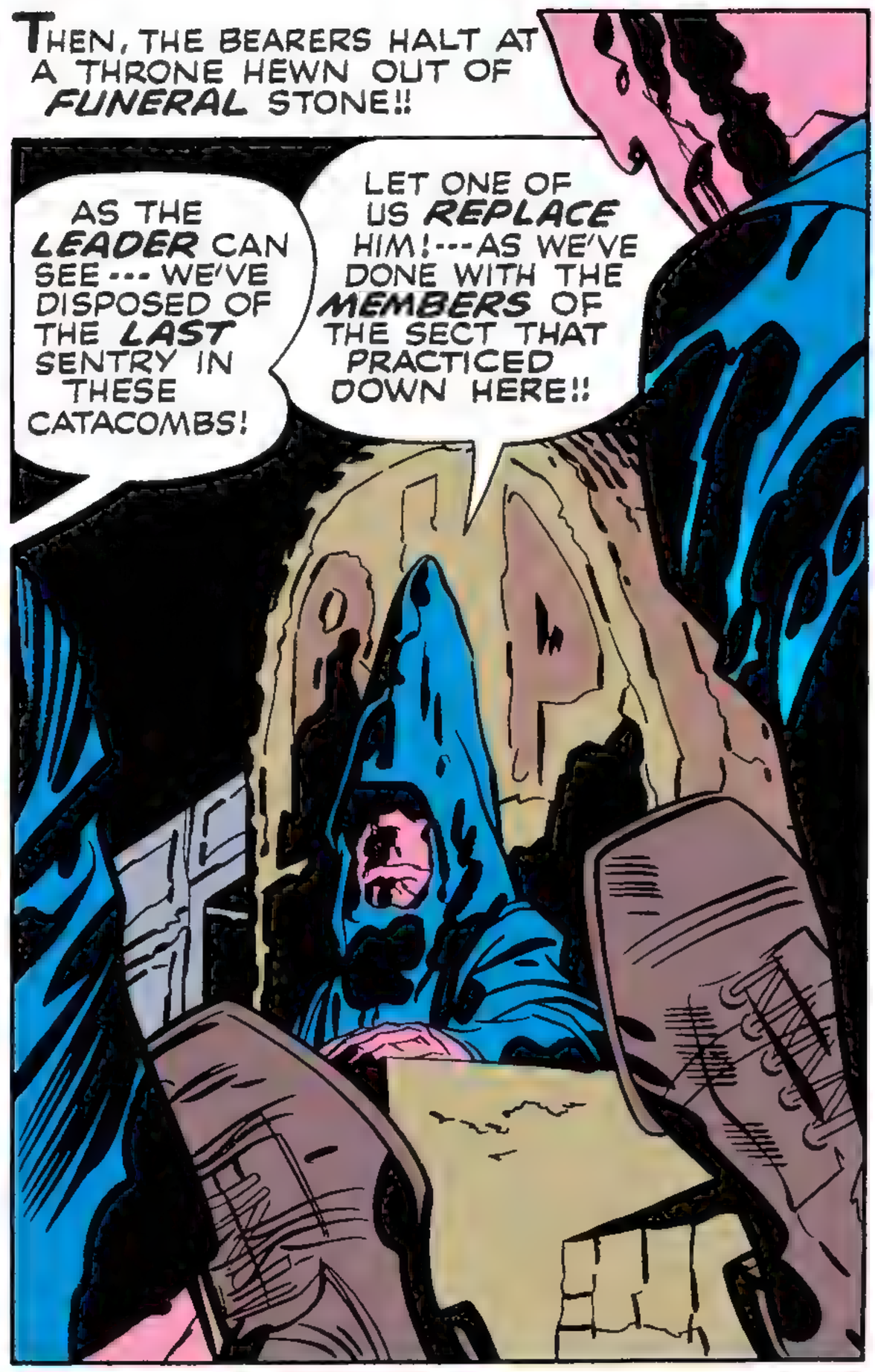
KRAAK

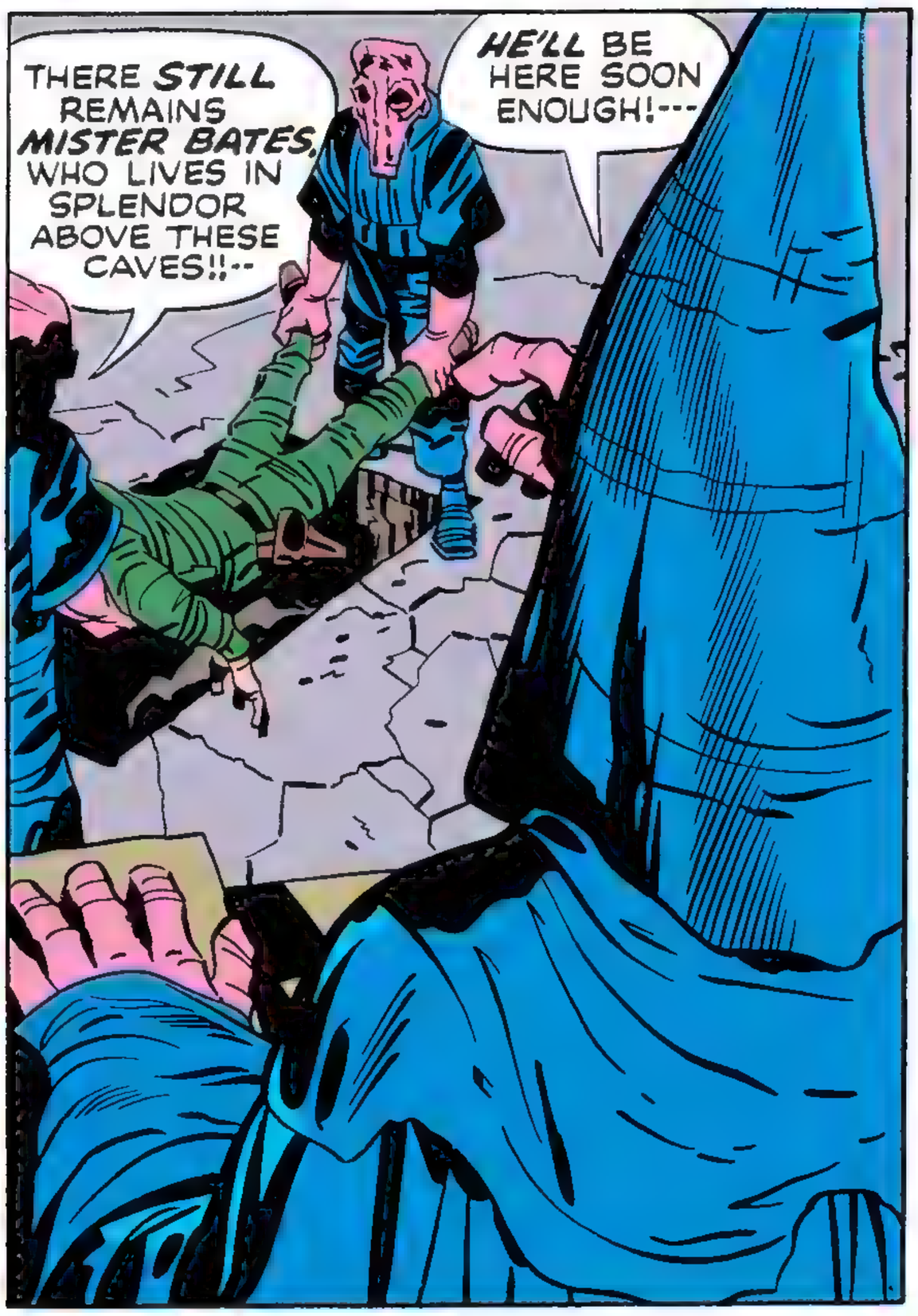
HE'S SILENCED!!--- BUT *LIFELESS!!*

NO MATTER!! WE'LL TOSS HIM WITH THE *OTHERS!*

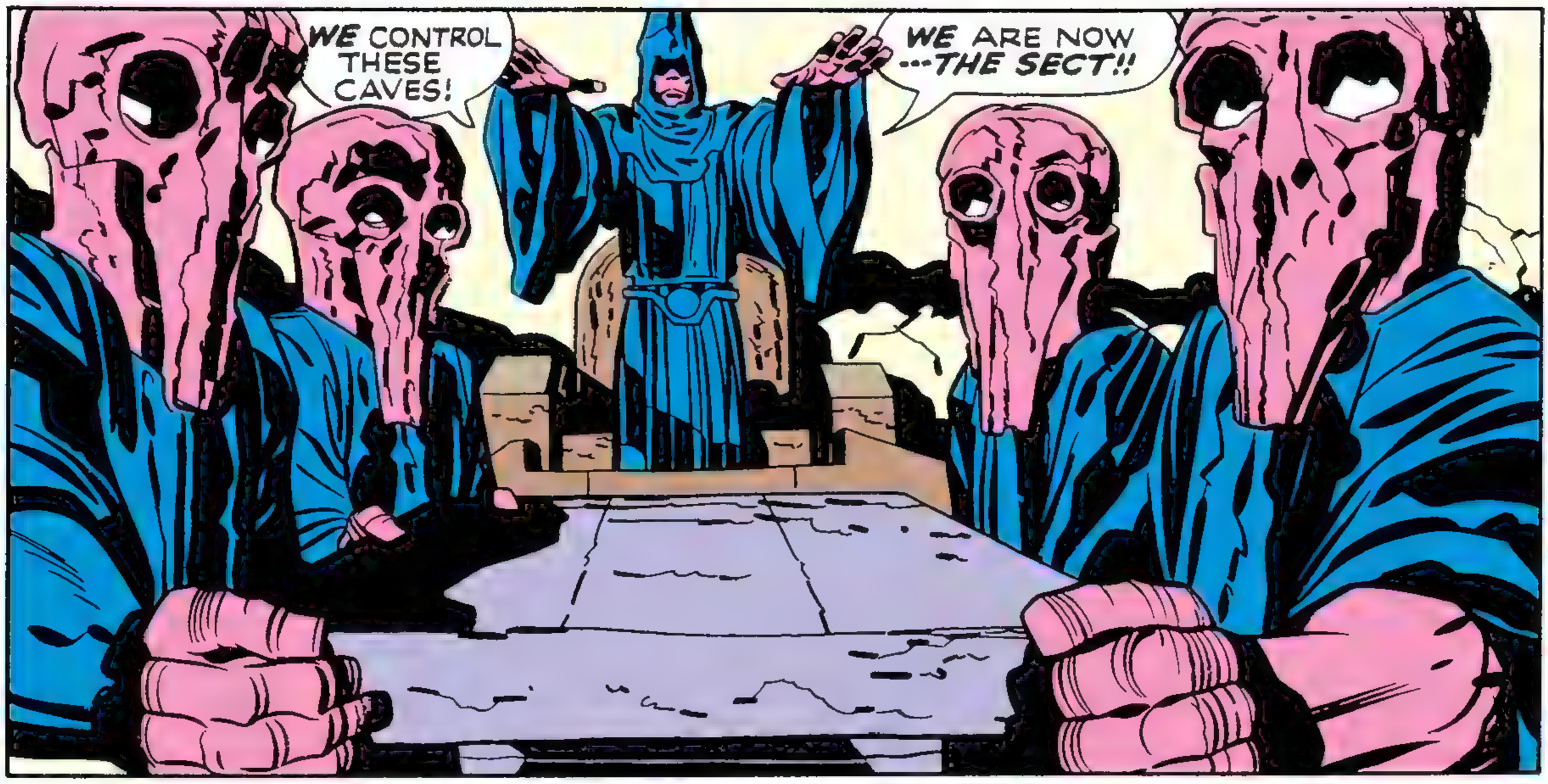
3

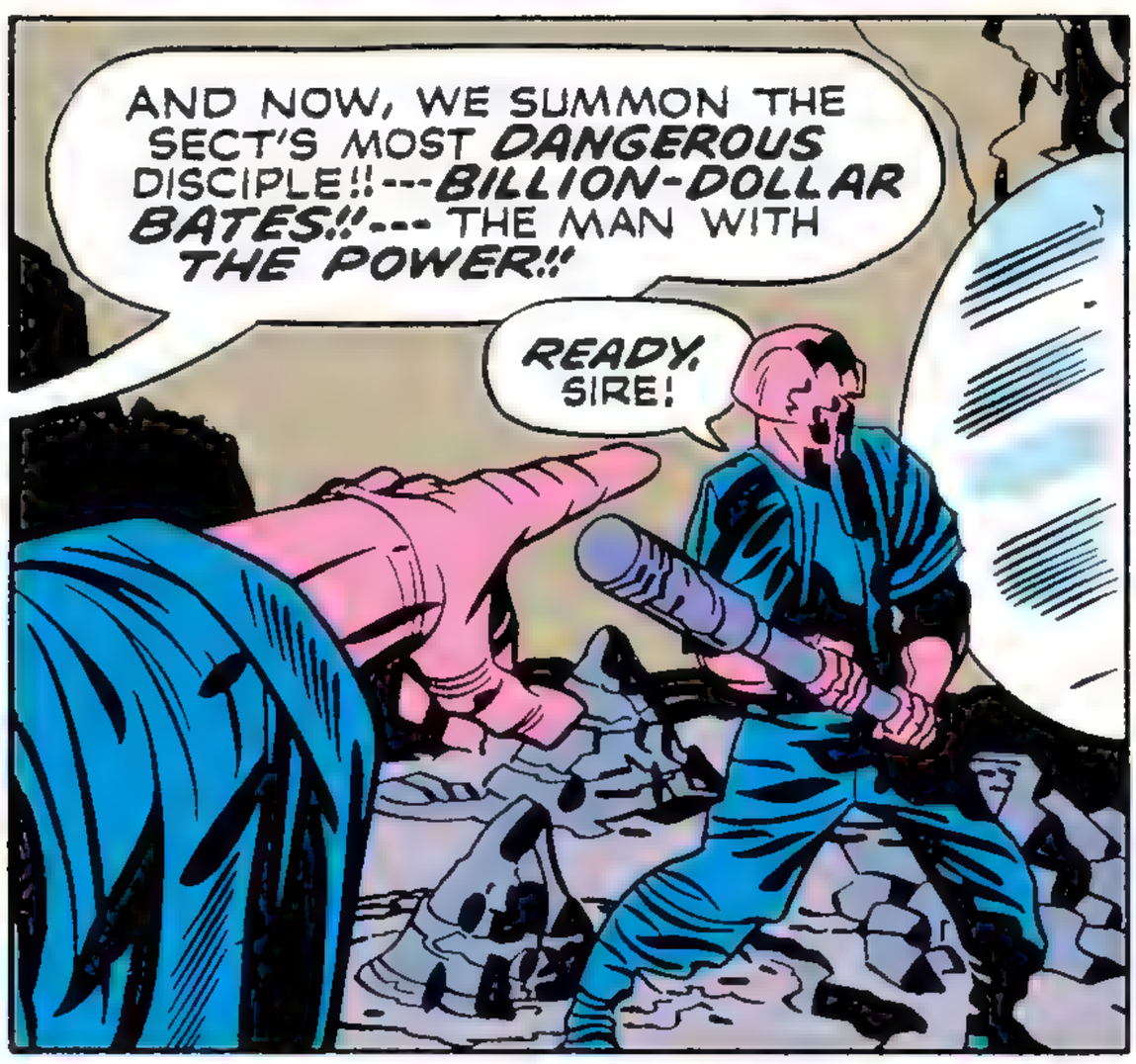

THINGS HAVE GONE WELL!! OUR ARRIVAL IS NOW A WELL KEPT SECRET!!
THE STRANGERS FILE DOWN ANCIENT, CRUMBLING CORRIDORS ---BEARING THEIR LIMP BURDEN PAST CRYPTS THAT BARELY SERVE AS GUARDIANS OF THE DEAD!!!

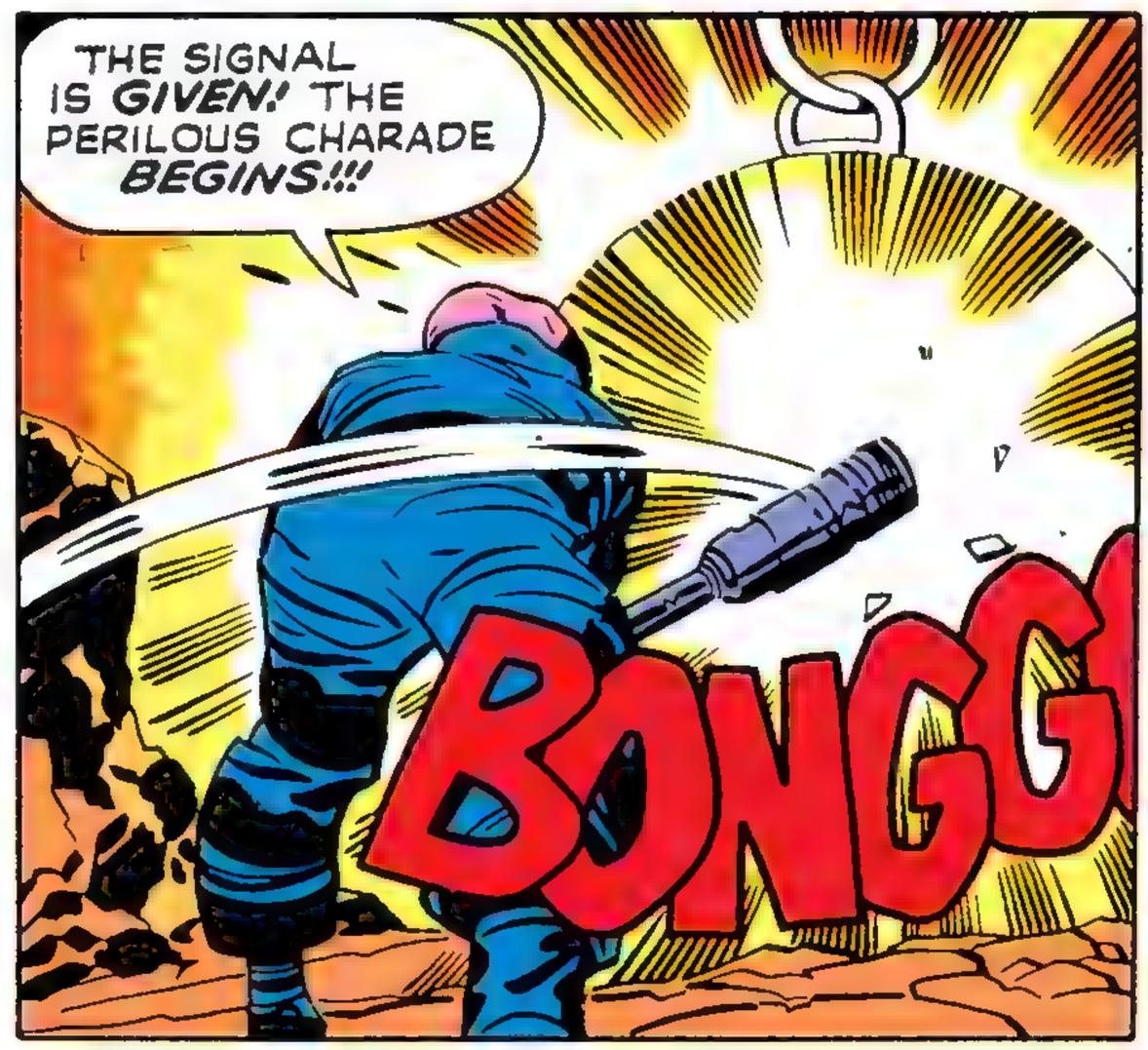

THEN, THE BEARERS HALT AT A THRONE HEWN OUT OF FUNERAL STONE!!
AS THE LEADER CAN SEE --- WE'VE DISPOSED OF THE LAST SENTRY IN THESE CATACOMBS!
LET ONE OF US REPLACE HIM!---AS WE'VE DONE WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SECT THAT PRACTICED DOWN HERE!!

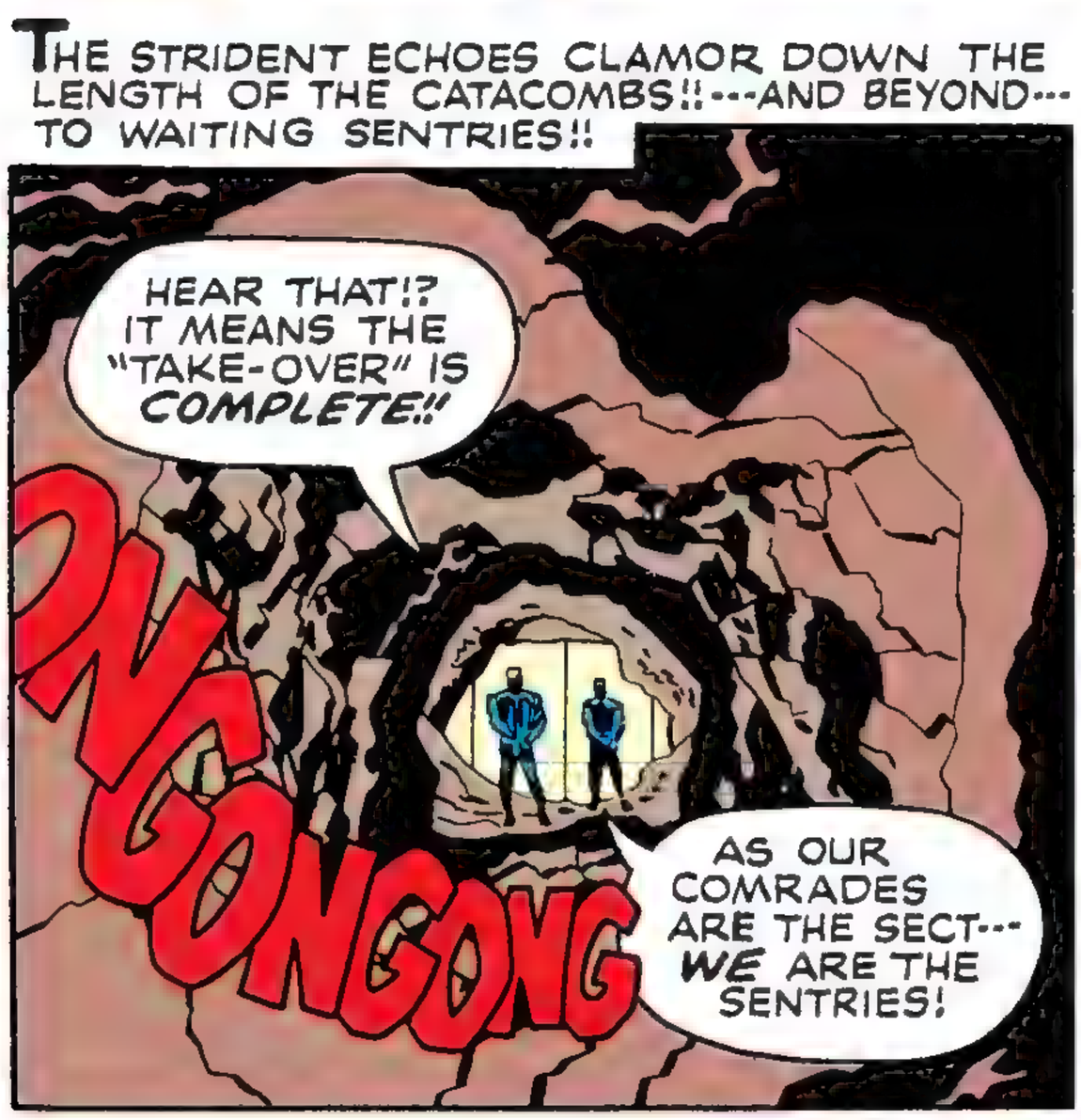

THERE STILL REMAINS MISTER BATES, WHO LIVES IN SPLENDOR ABOVE THESE CAVES!!--
HE'LL BE HERE SOON ENOUGH!---

NOW DROP HIM INTO THE CRYPT AND SEAL THE EVIDENCE OF OUR "TAKE-OVER!!"
DONE, SIRE!!
4


WE CONTROL THESE CAVES!
WE ARE NOW ---THE SECT!!

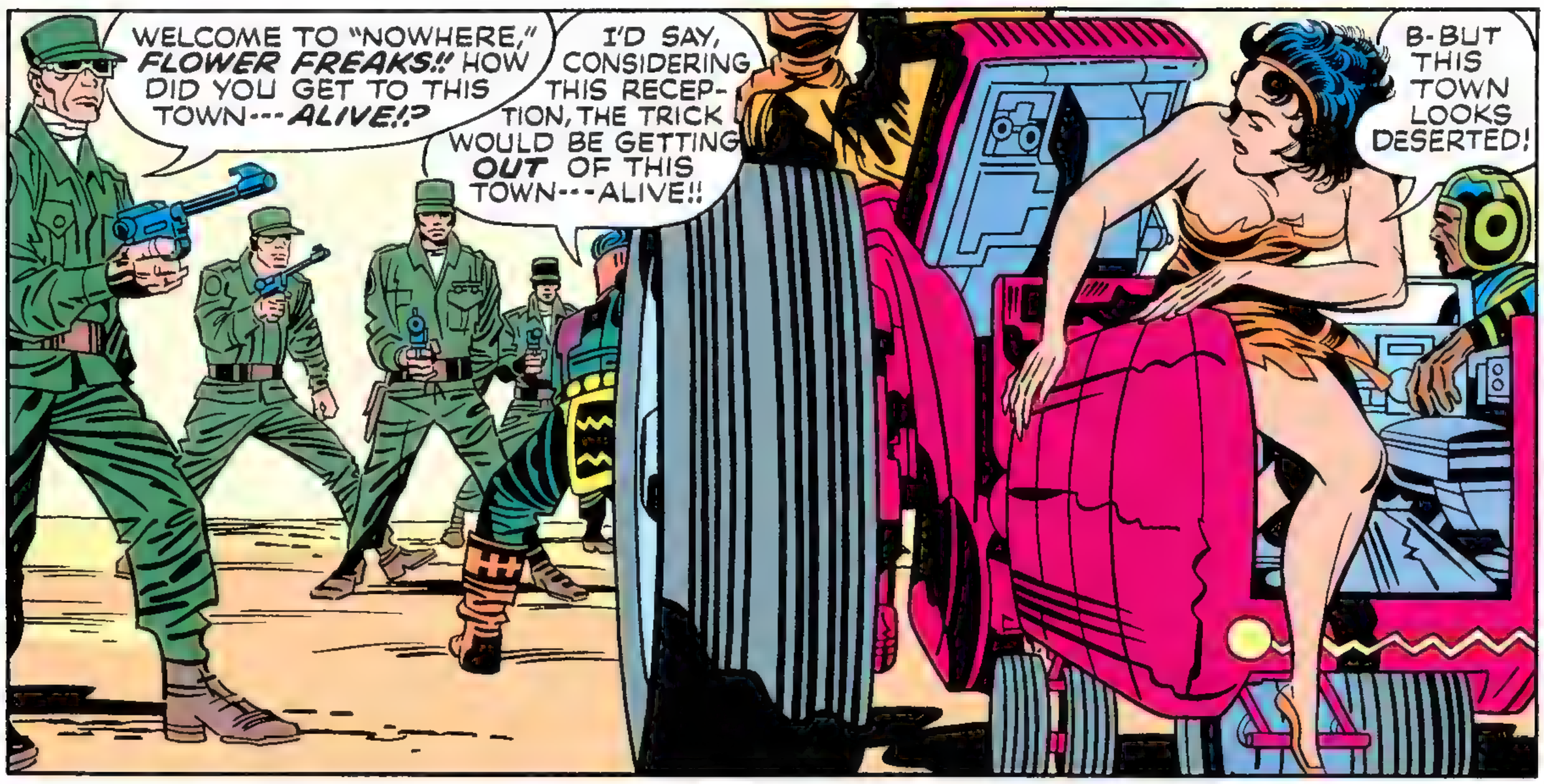

AND NOW, WE SUMMON THE SECT'S MOST DANGEROUS DISCIPLE!!---BILLION-DOLLAR BATES!!--- THE MAN WITH THE POWER!!
READY, SIRE!


THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN! THE PERILOUS CHARADE BEGINS!!!
BONGG

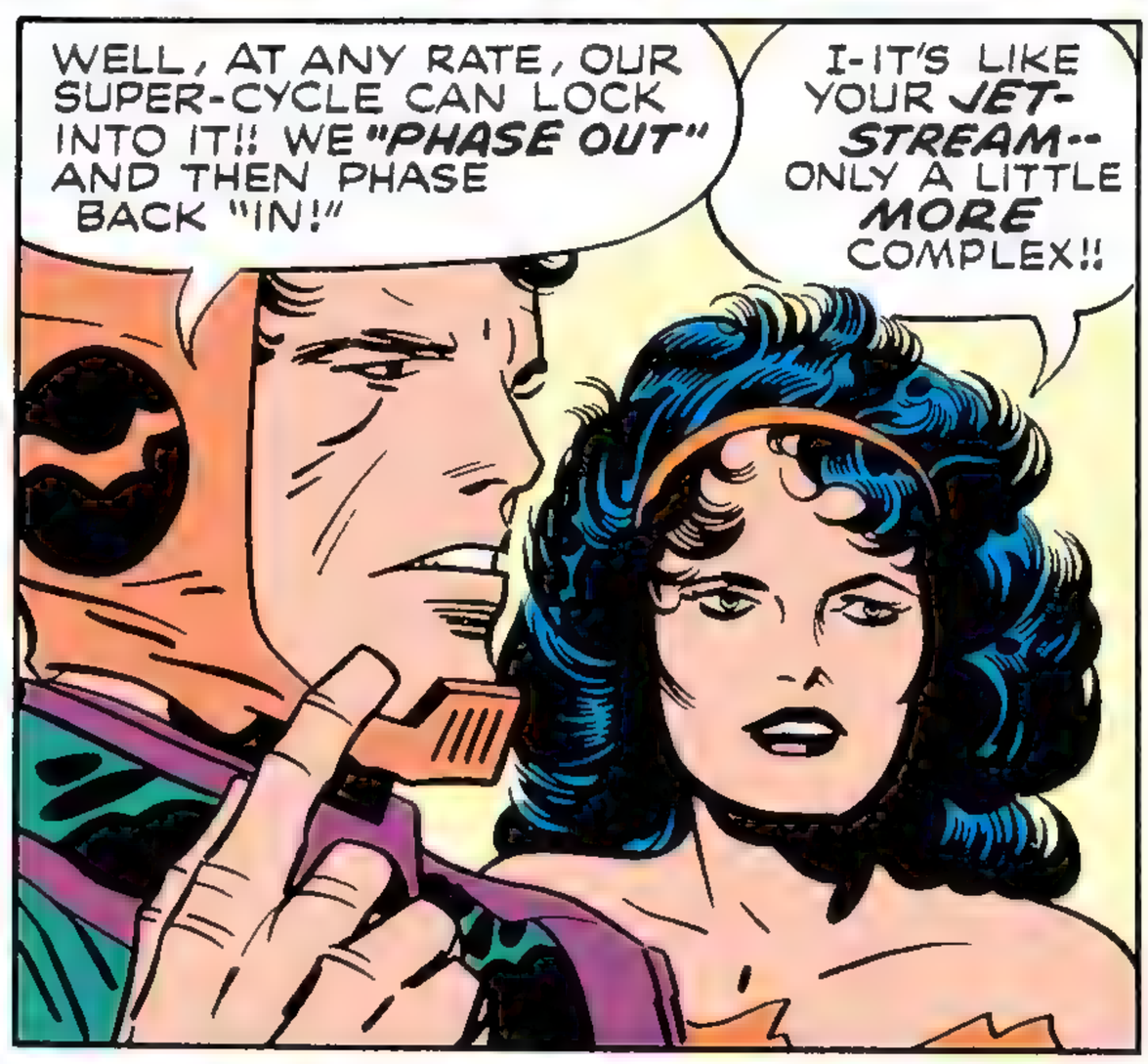

THE STRIDENT ECHOES CLAMOR DOWN THE LENGTH OF THE CATACOMBS!!---AND BEYOND--- TO WAITING SENTRIES!!
HEAR THAT!? IT MEANS THE "TAKE-OVER" IS COMPLETE!!
ONGONGONG
AS OUR COMRADES ARE THE SECT--- WE ARE THE SENTRIES!

DO YOUR JOB---SENTRY! ALERT THE UPPER LEVELS!!
DONE!
I'LL SEE THAT MISTER BATES IS INFORMED AT ONCE-!!
THIS IS THE CATACOMBS POST! WE'VE JUST HEARD THE GONG! THE SECT IS READY FOR THE CEREMONIES!
5

THE STAGE IS SET FOR EVENTS THAT ARE INDESCRIBABLY SINISTER!! WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE CATACOMBS IS A SURPRISE TWIST IN THE GROTESQUE PLAY WHO'S STAR IS ONE BILLION-DOLLAR BATES!! BUT NOT ALL OF THE CAST HAS BEEN ASSEMBLED!! FATE AND THE SUPER-CYCLE ARE ARRIVING WITH---
THE FOREVER PEOPLE!
GET A LOAD OF WHAT'S HAPPENING!! WE'VE GOT TOURISTS IN TOWN!! AND THEY'VE BROUGHT THEIR OWN FIREWORKS!!
IT LOOKS MORE LIKE THE FIREWORKS BROUGHT THEM!! IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY COULD'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR---WITHOUT BEING STOPPED---OR KILLED!!
EDITED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY
WITH
PATIENCE, FORTITUDE AND INK BY MRS. ROYER'S BOY--- MIKE!!
6


WELCOME TO "NOWHERE," FLOWER FREAKS!! HOW DID YOU GET TO THIS TOWN---ALIVE!?
I'D SAY, CONSIDERING THIS RECEPTION, THE TRICK WOULD BE GETTING OUT OF THIS TOWN---ALIVE!!
B-BUT THIS TOWN LOOKS DESERTED!

THIS TOWN IS MEANT TO BE DESERTED!! ---EXCEPT BY OUR PATROLS!! NOW--- HOW DID YOU GET HERE !!?
BY THE ELECTRON ROAD, OF COURSE !!

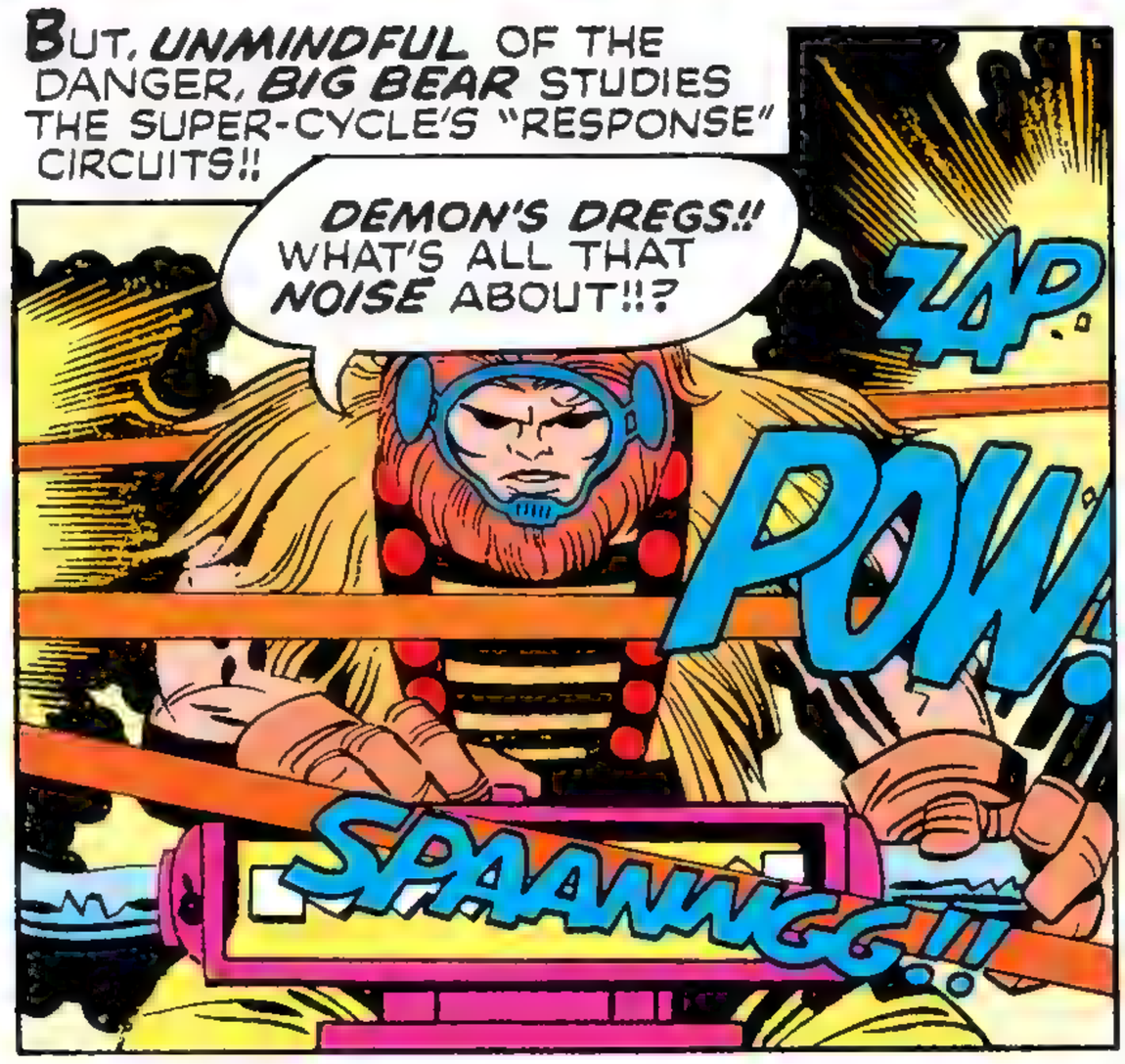

WELL, AT ANY RATE, OUR SUPER-CYCLE CAN LOCK INTO IT!! WE "PHASE OUT" AND THEN PHASE BACK "IN!"
I-IT'S LIKE YOUR JET-STREAM-- ONLY A LITTLE MORE COMPLEX!!

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND, VYKIN!!
DON'T VOLUNTEER ANY FURTHER EXPLANATIONS, MOONRIDER! THESE ARE HOSTILE MEN! AND THEY'RE ABOUT TO USE THEIR WEAPONS!!
THOSE WERE YOUR LAST WORDS!!

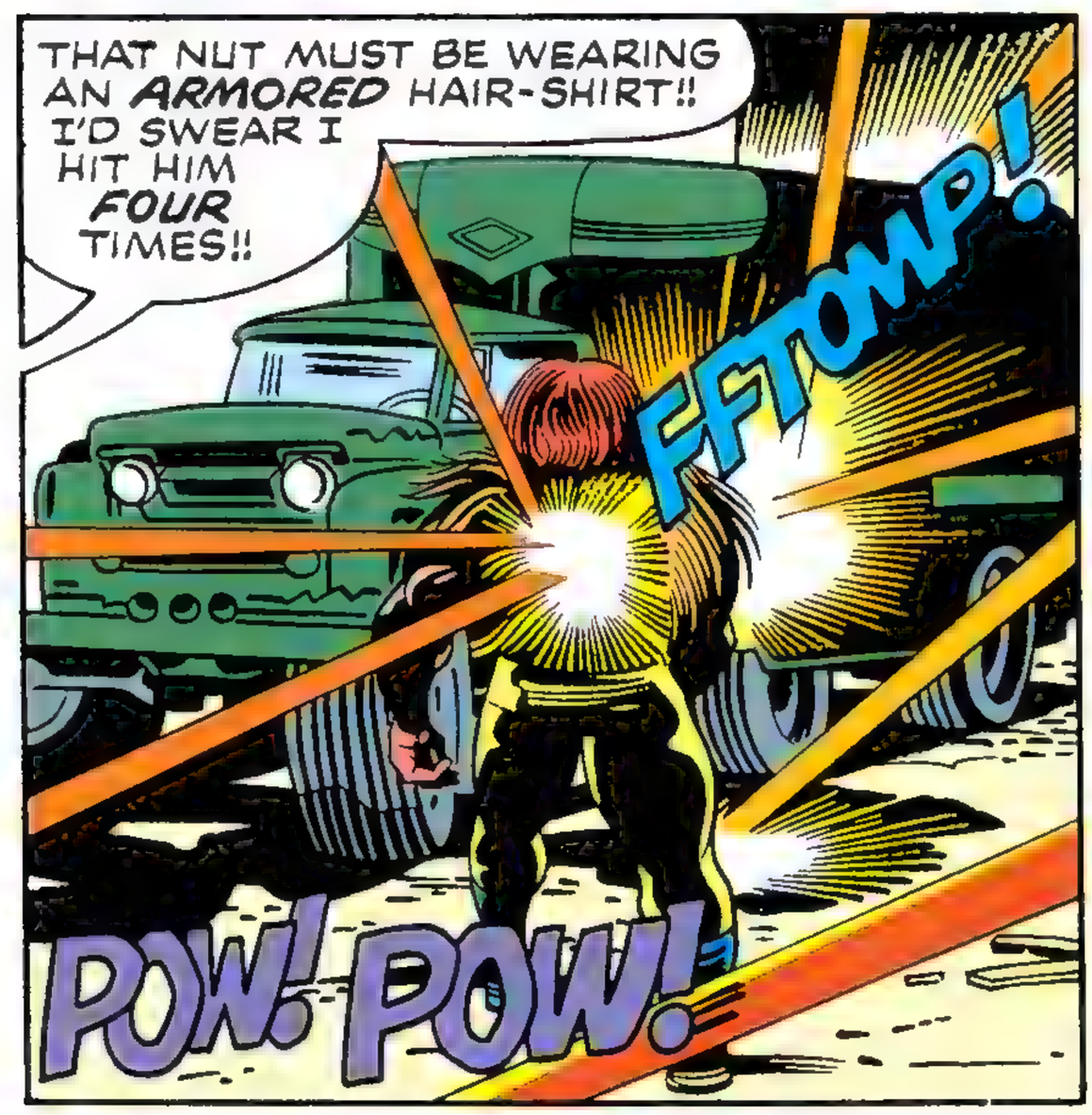
BAM!
SEE WHAT I MEAN, MARK?
ZOK!
STOMP!
7

THOSE "HIPPIES" MOVE LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING! OPEN FIRE!! KILL THE LOT OF THEM!!
POW POW POW
BRAAKAK!
LOOK AT 'EM MOVE !!!

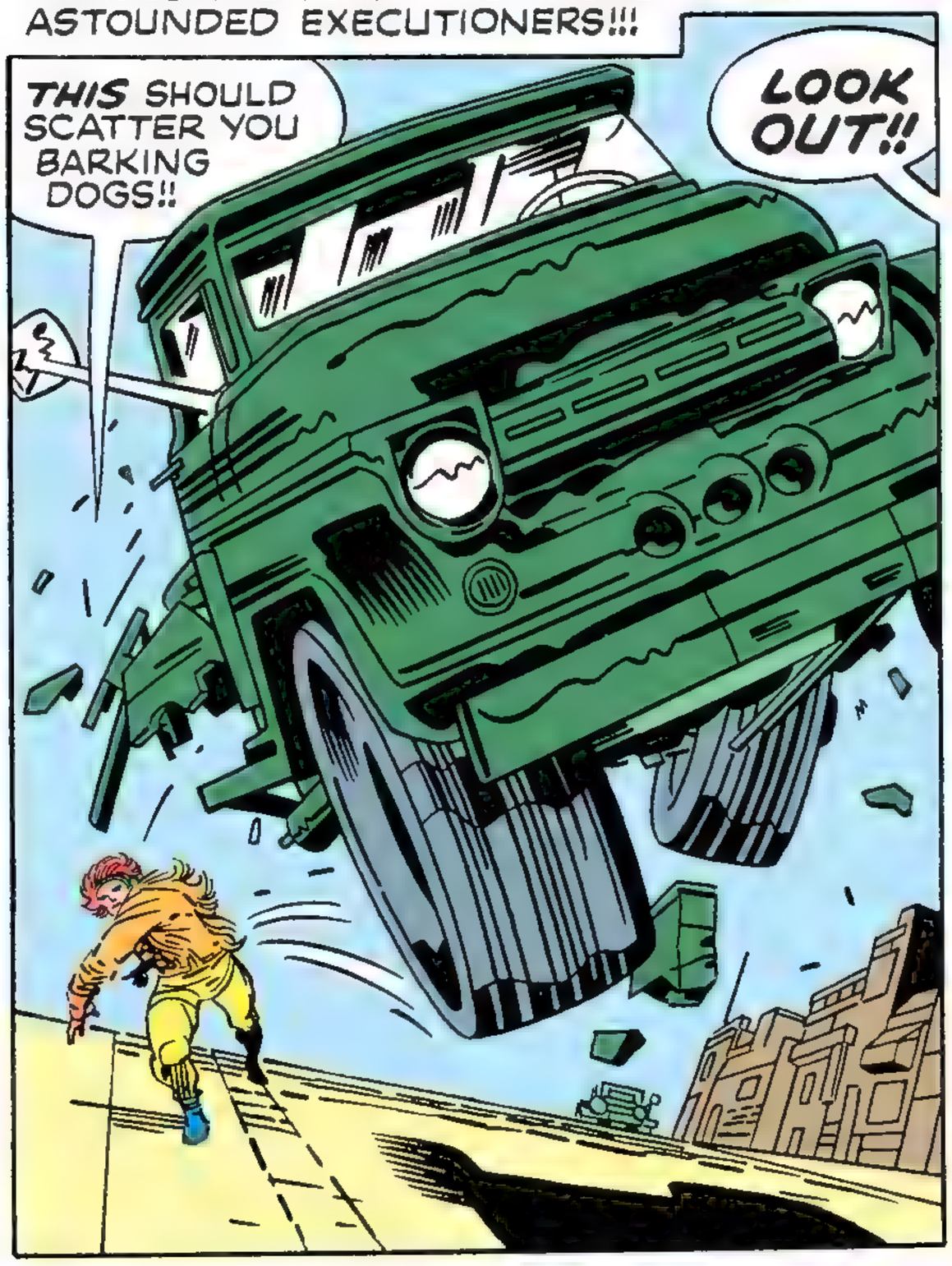
BLAST 'EM-! THEY'RE FASTER'N JACKRABBITS!!
TAKE COVER!!

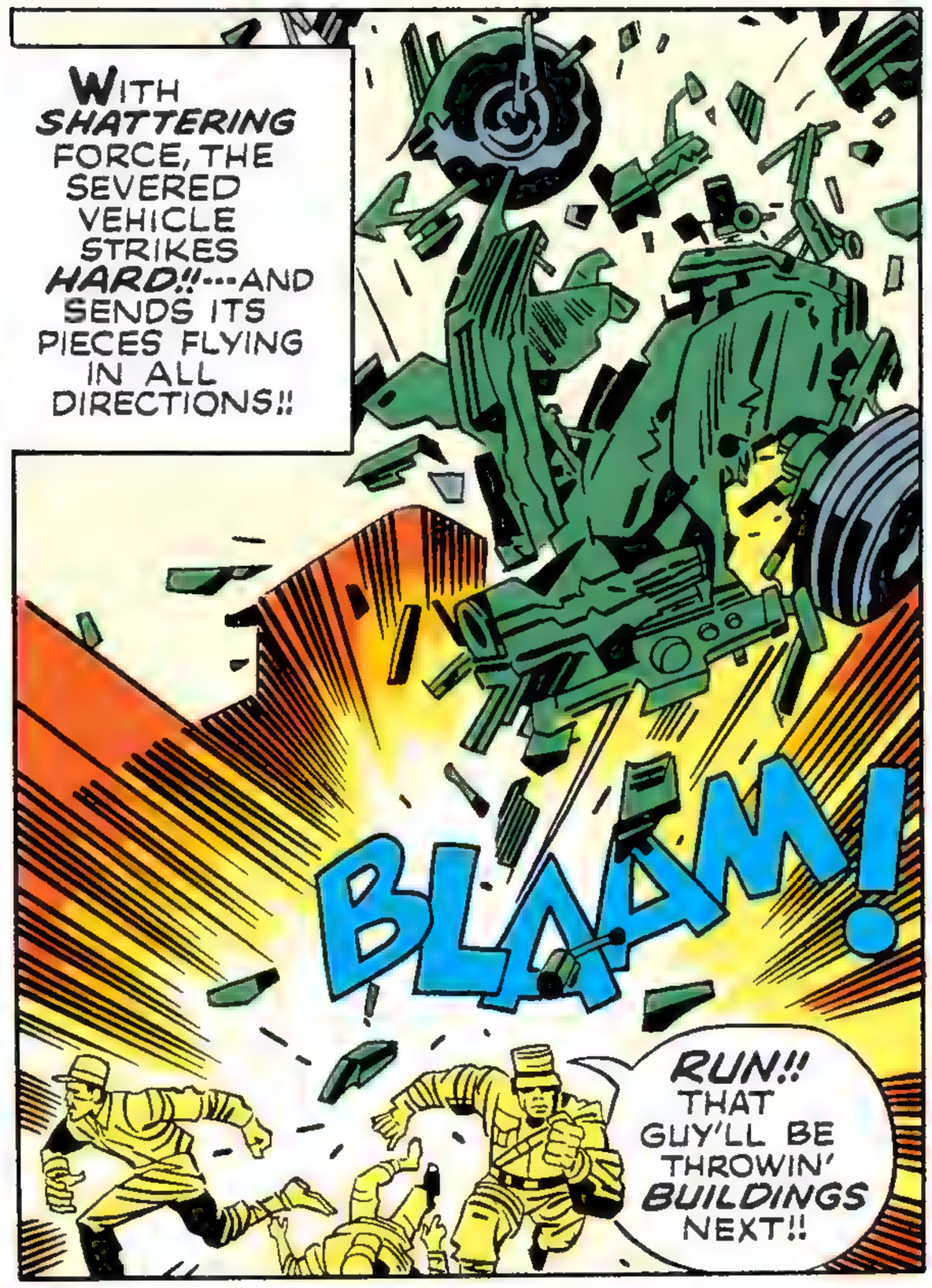

BUT, UNMINDFUL OF THE DANGER, BIG BEAR STUDIES THE SUPER-CYCLE'S "RESPONSE" CIRCUITS!!
DEMON'S DREGS!! WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE ABOUT!!?
ZAP
POW
SPAAANNGG!!!

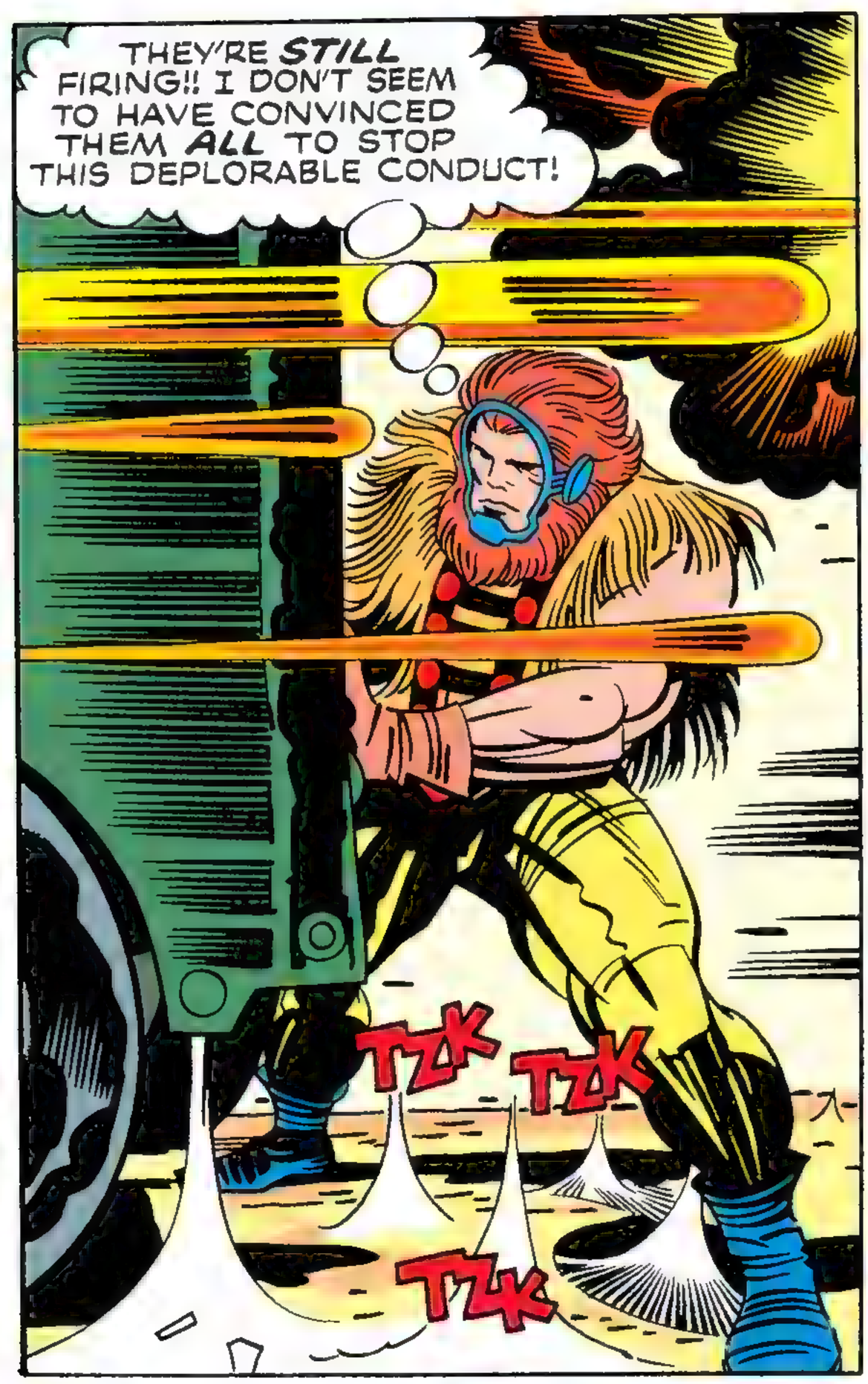
YOU THERE!--- YOU MILITARY TYPES!! PUT THOSE WEAPONS AWAY! I'M ENGAGED IN EXTREMELY DELICATE WORK!!
ZAPOW!
SPEEOW!
BAAM

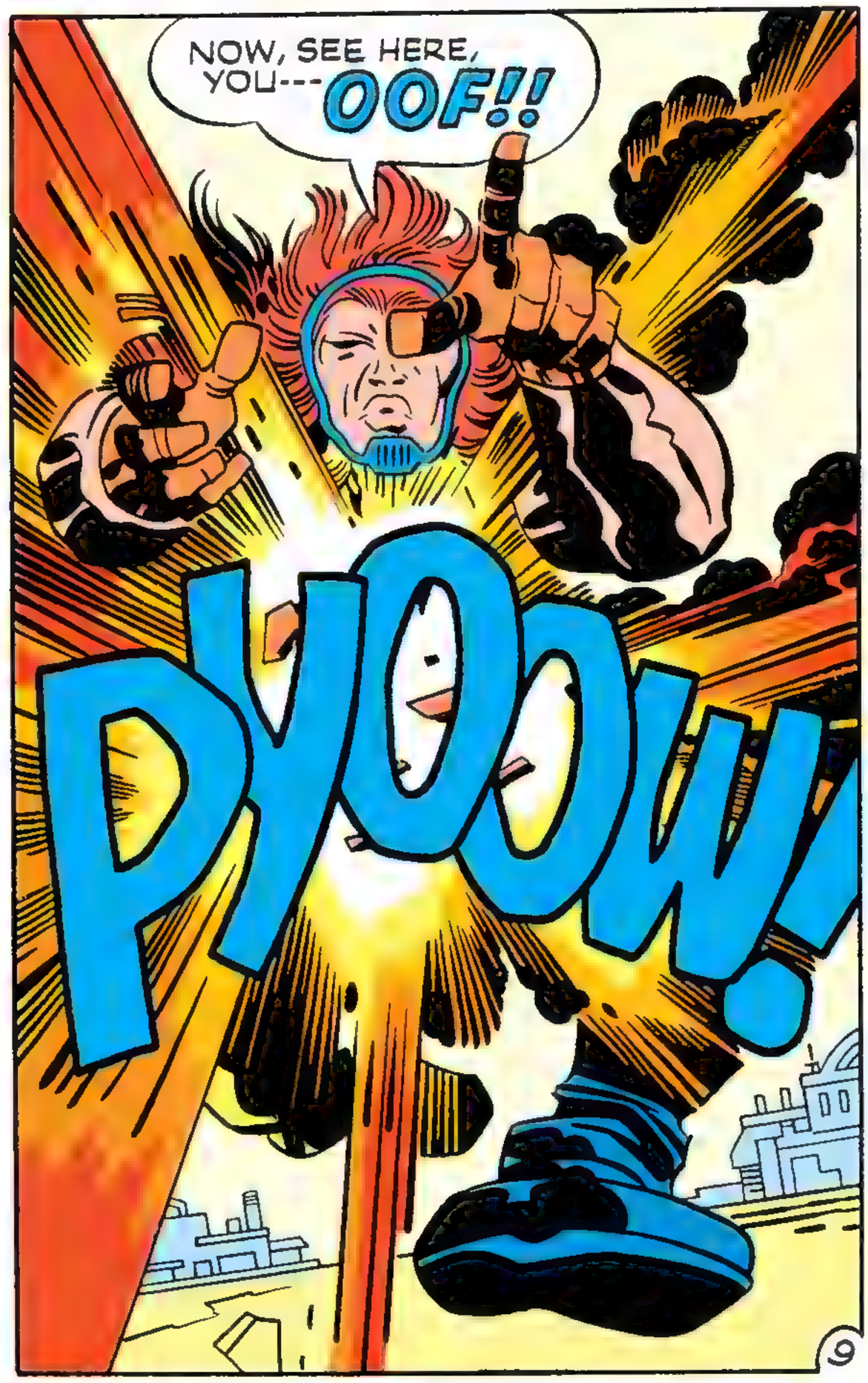

THAT NUT MUST BE WEARING AN ARMORED HAIR-SHIRT!! I'D SWEAR I HIT HIM FOUR TIMES!!
FFTOWP!
POW! POW!

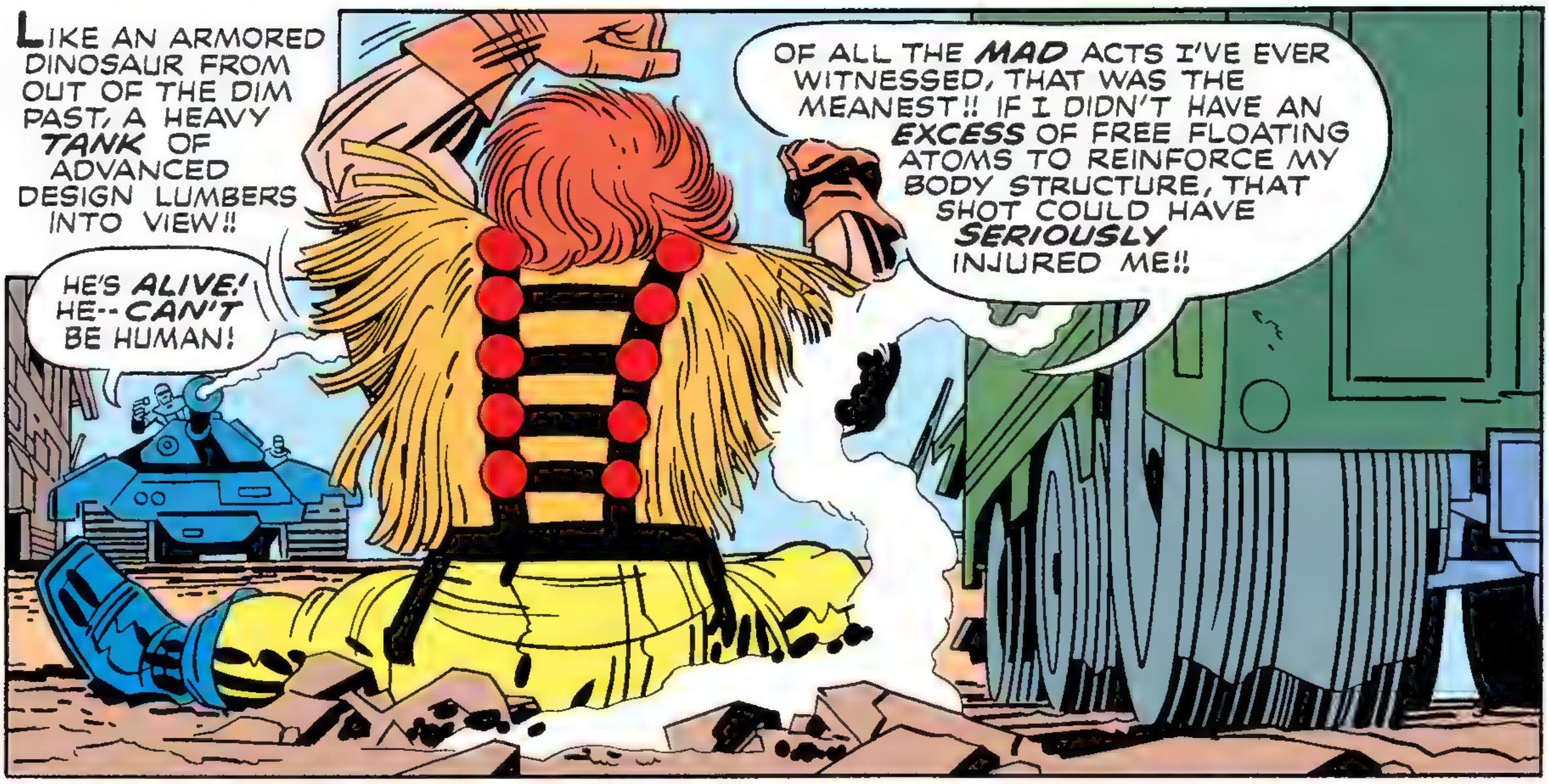
THAT GIANT'S MADE OF STEEL!! HE'S TEARING THE CAB OFF THAT TRUCK!! WITH HIS BARE HANDS !!!
SOME HEAVIER FIRE-POWER'LL FINISH HIM!! I'VE JUST CALLED FOR A TANK!!
8

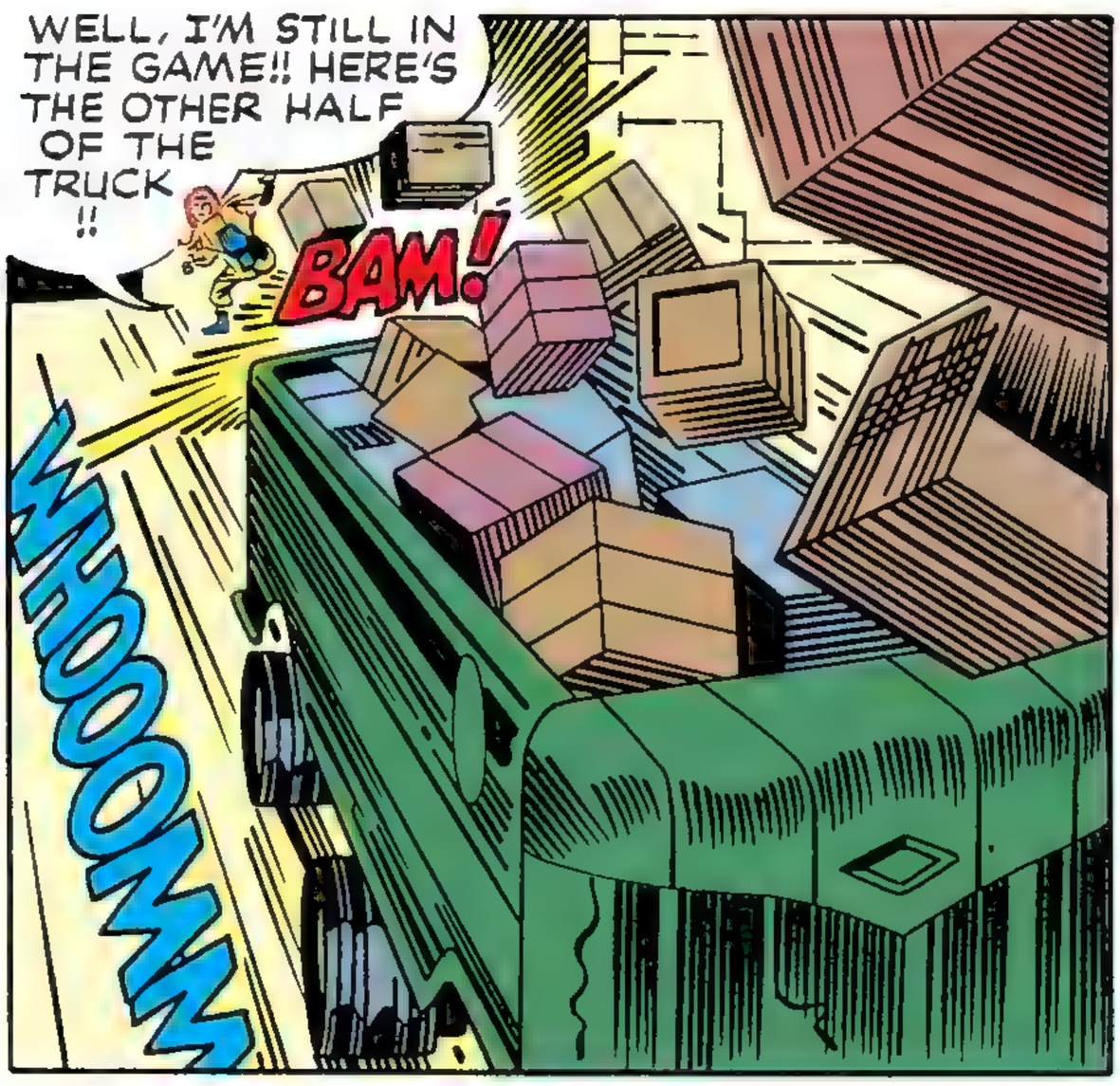

WITH INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, BIG BEAR HEAVES THE TORN TRUCK-CAB AT HIS ASTOUNDED EXECUTIONERS!!!
THIS SHOULD SCATTER YOU BARKING DOGS!!
LOOK OUT!!


WITH SHATTERING FORCE, THE SEVERED VEHICLE STRIKES HARD!!---AND SENDS ITS PIECES FLYING IN ALL DIRECTIONS!!
BLAAM!
RUN!! THAT GUY'LL BE THROWIN' BUILDINGS NEXT!!


THEY'RE STILL FIRING!! I DON'T SEEM TO HAVE CONVINCED THEM ALL TO STOP THIS DEPLORABLE CONDUCT!
TZK
TZK
TZK


NOW, SEE HERE, YOU---OOF!!
PYOOW!


LIKE AN ARMORED DINOSAUR FROM OUT OF THE DIM PAST, A HEAVY TANK OF ADVANCED DESIGN LUMBERS INTO VIEW!!
HE'S ALIVE! HE--CAN'T BE HUMAN!
OF ALL THE MAD ACTS I'VE EVER WITNESSED, THAT WAS THE MEANEST!! IF I DIDN'T HAVE AN EXCESS OF FREE FLOATING ATOMS TO REINFORCE MY BODY STRUCTURE, THAT SHOT COULD HAVE SERIOUSLY INJURED ME!!


WELL, I'M STILL IN THE GAME!! HERE'S THE OTHER HALF OF THE TRUCK !!
BAM!
WHOOOOM

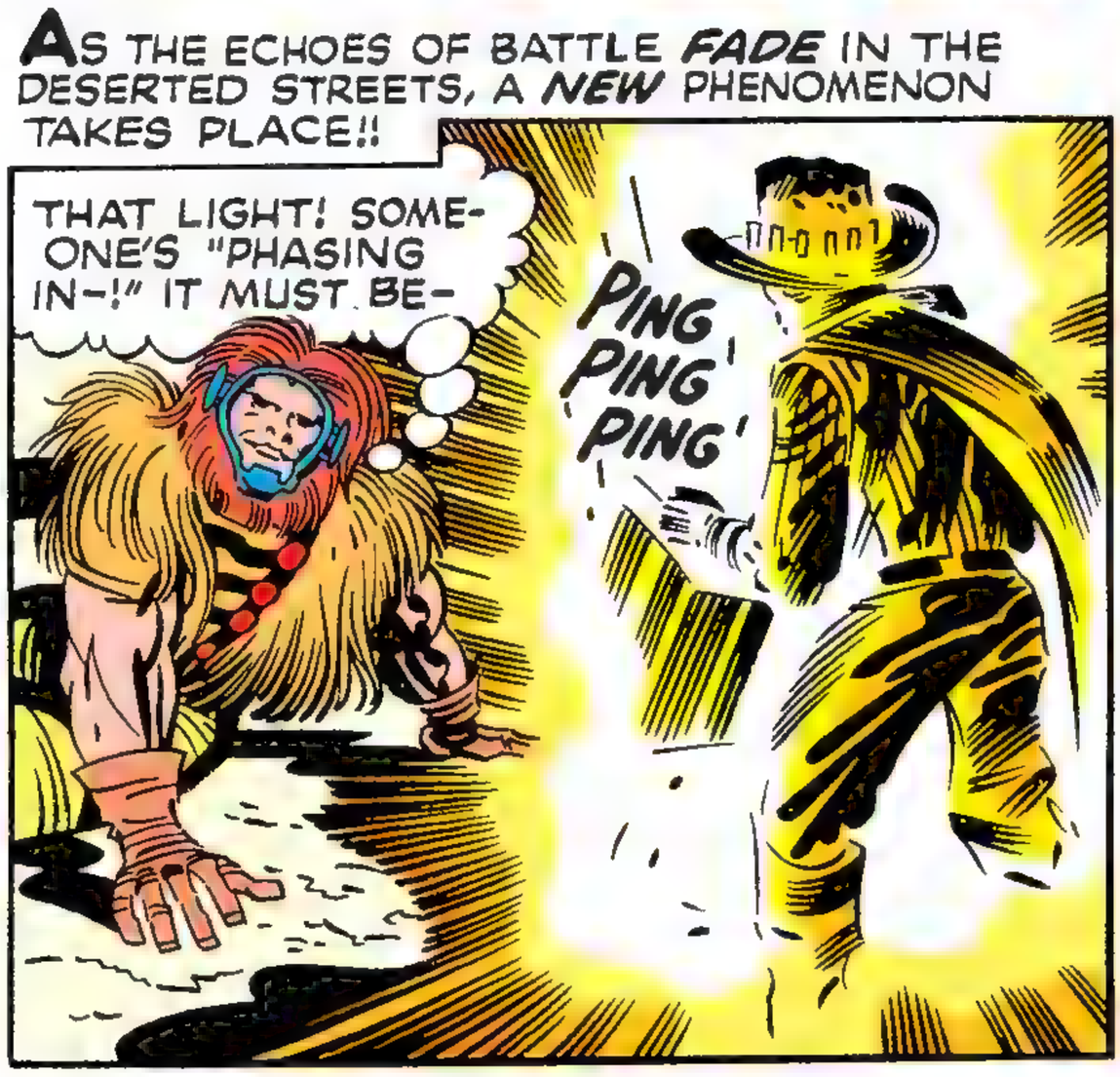
BAROOOM!

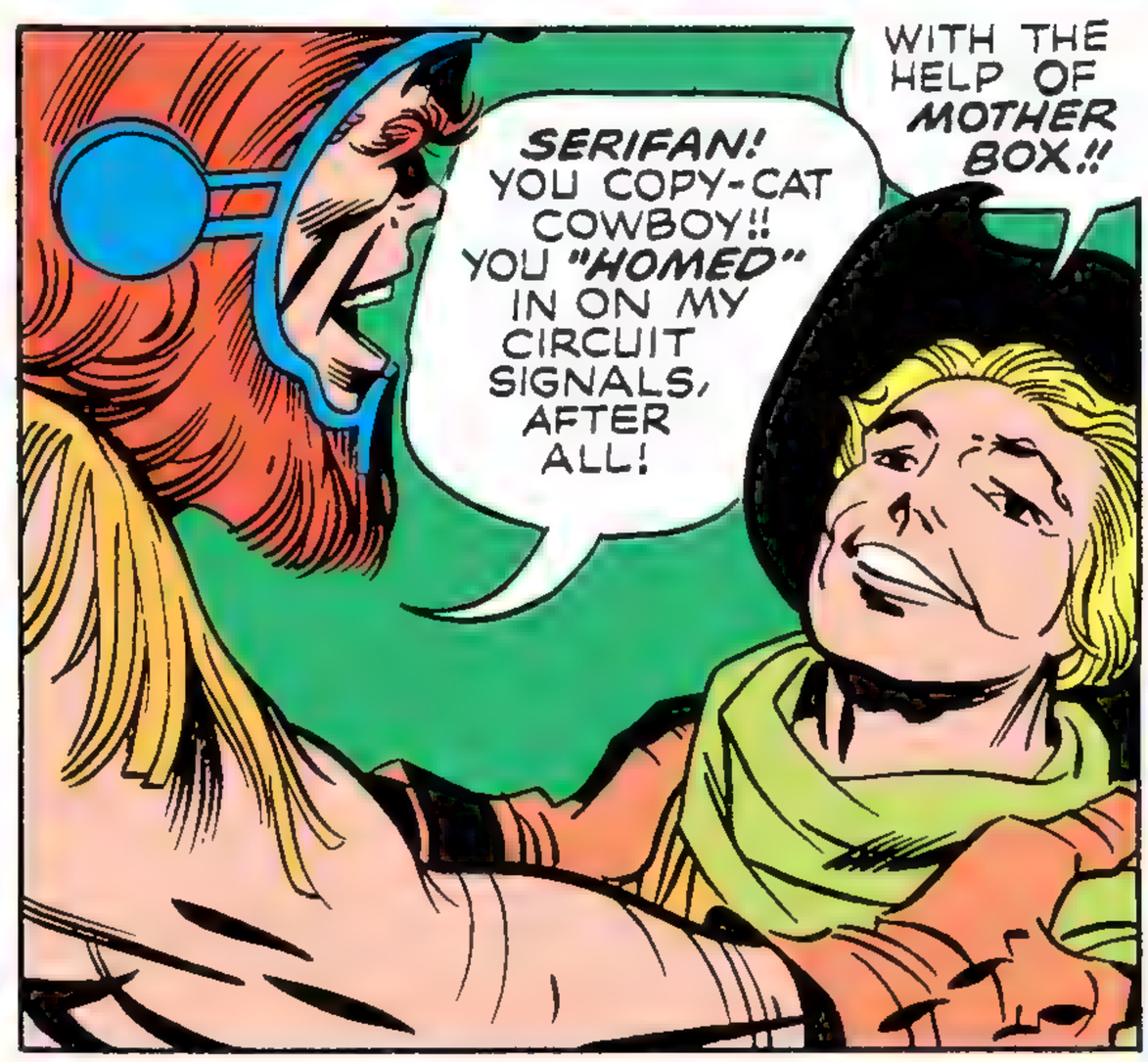
THAT SHOULD COOL YOU SOLDIER-BOYS DOWN A BIT!! IF THAT WAS THE EXTENT OF YOUR ARSENAL, GIVE IT UP AND GO HOME!!

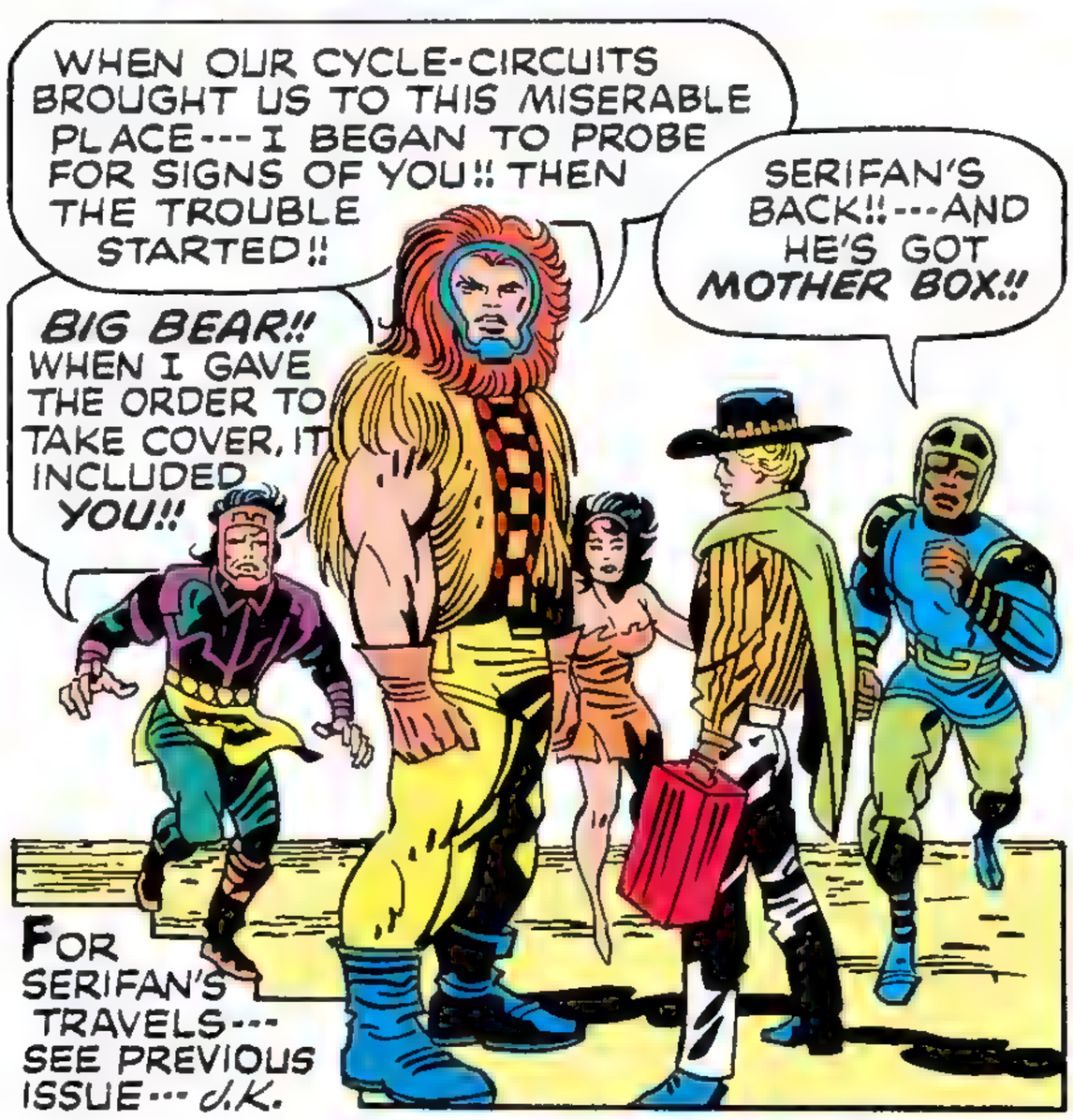
OW!
NOT YET, SUPER-TARGET!! WE'VE NEVER TRIED OUT THESE NEW HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRO-PISTOLS! THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO STUN A REGIMENT!!
10

BIG BEAR SEEMS VERITABLY IMPENETRABLE!! THE SHOTS CAUSE A FIERY BACKLASH WHICH REBOUNDS ON HIS ATTACKERS!!!
WOF!!

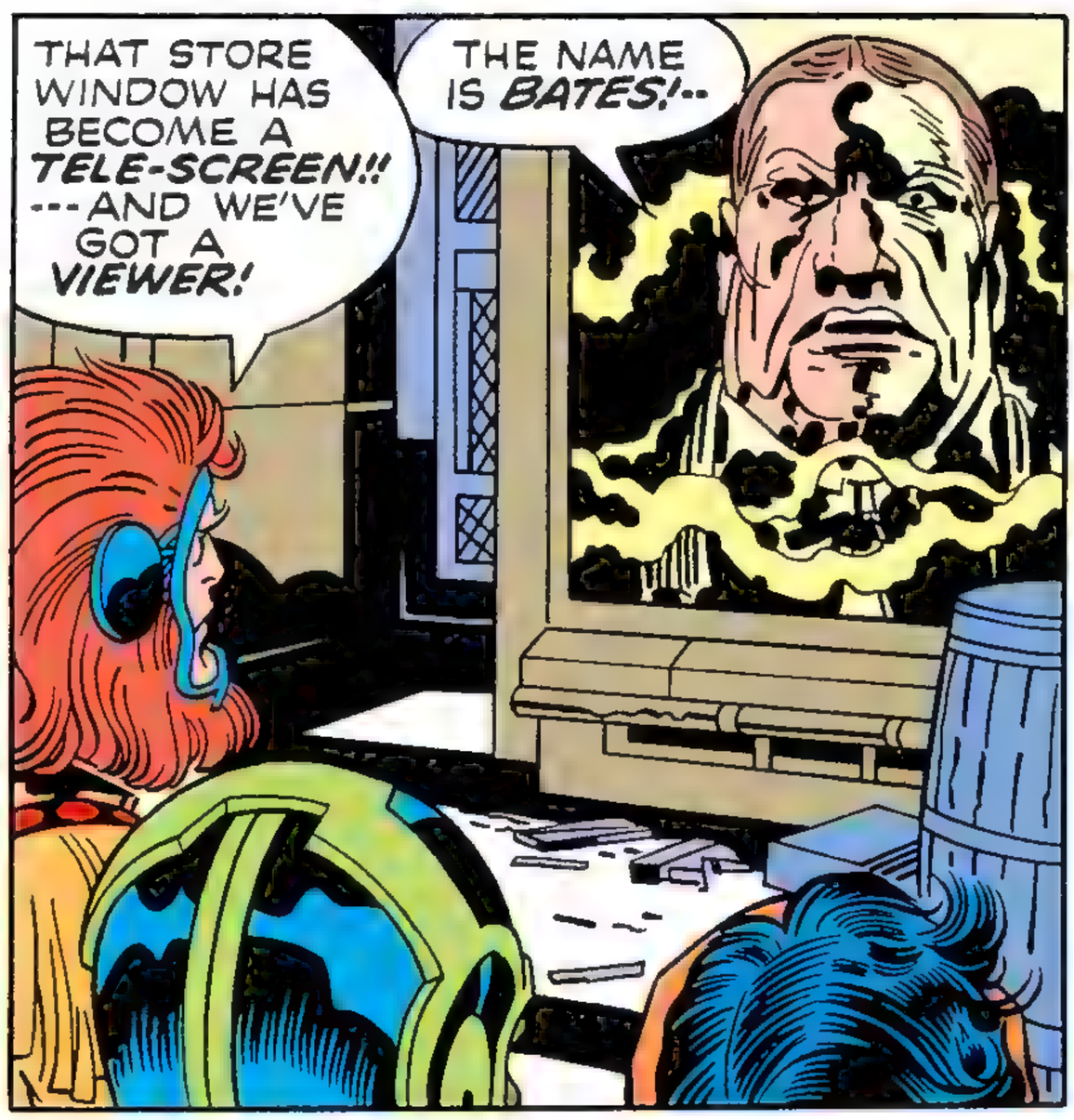
WELL, IF THAT ISN'T THE LIMIT!! SOME OF YOU EARTHMEN MUST BE TAKING BASIC TRAINING IN APOKOLIPS!! I HOPE THIS HAS TAUGHT YOU TWO A LESSON!
WE'VE HAD IT! THE ONLY ANSWER TO THESE WEIRDOS IS MISTER BATES!!

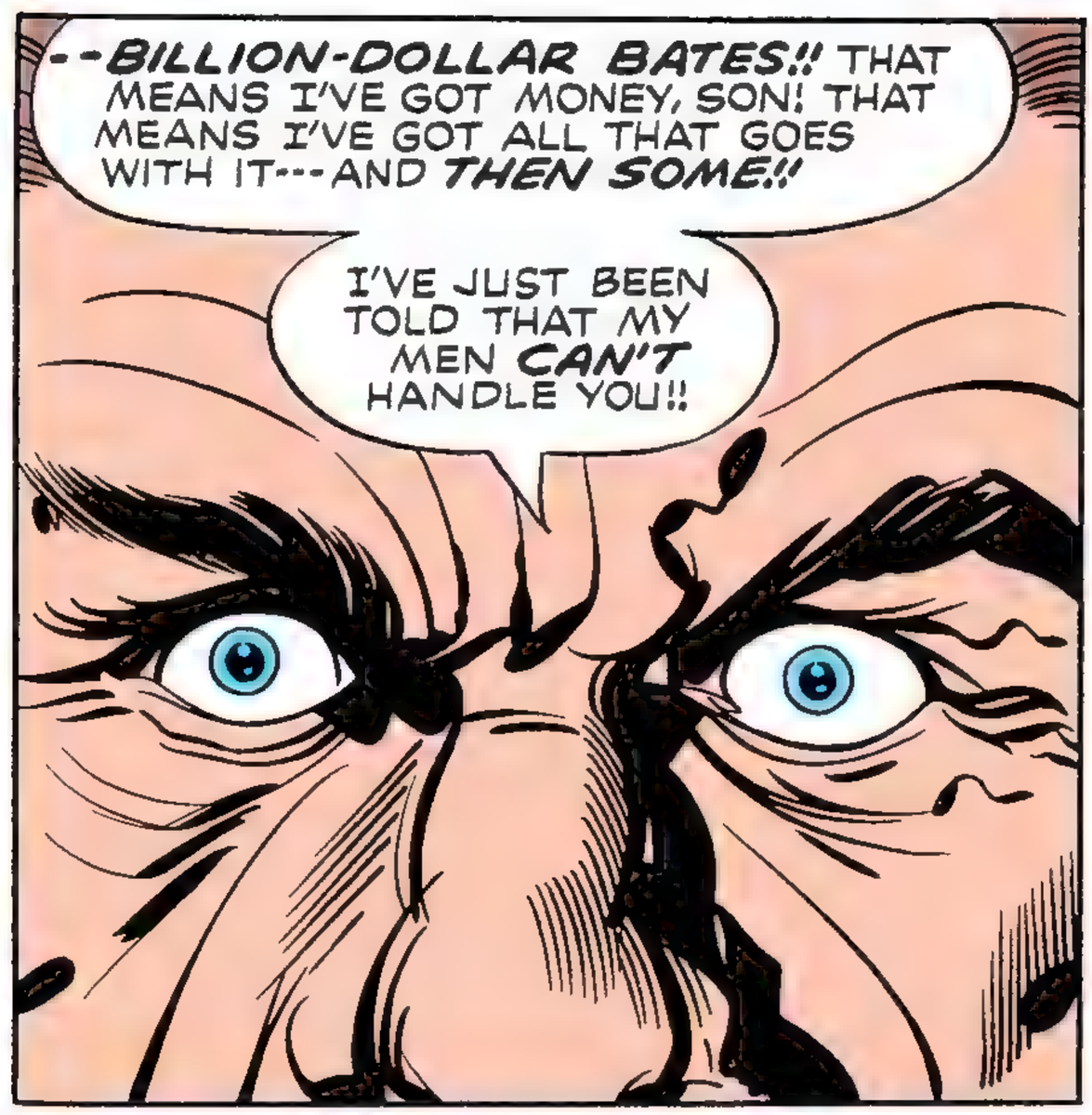

AS THE ECHOES OF BATTLE FADE IN THE DESERTED STREETS, A NEW PHENOMENON TAKES PLACE!!
THAT LIGHT! SOMEONE'S "PHASING IN-!" IT MUST BE-
PING PING PING


SERIFAN! YOU COPY-CAT COWBOY!! YOU "HOMED" IN ON MY CIRCUIT SIGNALS, AFTER ALL!
WITH THE HELP OF MOTHER BOX!!


WHEN OUR CYCLE-CIRCUITS BROUGHT US TO THIS MISERABLE PLACE---I BEGAN TO PROBE FOR SIGNS OF YOU!! THEN THE TROUBLE STARTED!!
BIG BEAR!! WHEN I GAVE THE ORDER TO TAKE COVER, IT INCLUDED YOU!!
SERIFAN'S BACK!!---AND HE'S GOT MOTHER BOX!!
FOR SERIFAN'S TRAVELS--- SEE PREVIOUS ISSUE--- J.K.

I SHOULD BE READING THE "RIOT ACT" TO BIG BEAR! BUT I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU, SERIFAN!
MARK! VYKIN! BEAUTIFUL DREAMER! I MUST TELL YOU--
HOLD IT! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING!


THAT STORE WINDOW HAS BECOME A TELE-SCREEN!! ---AND WE'VE GOT A VIEWER!
THE NAME IS BATES!--

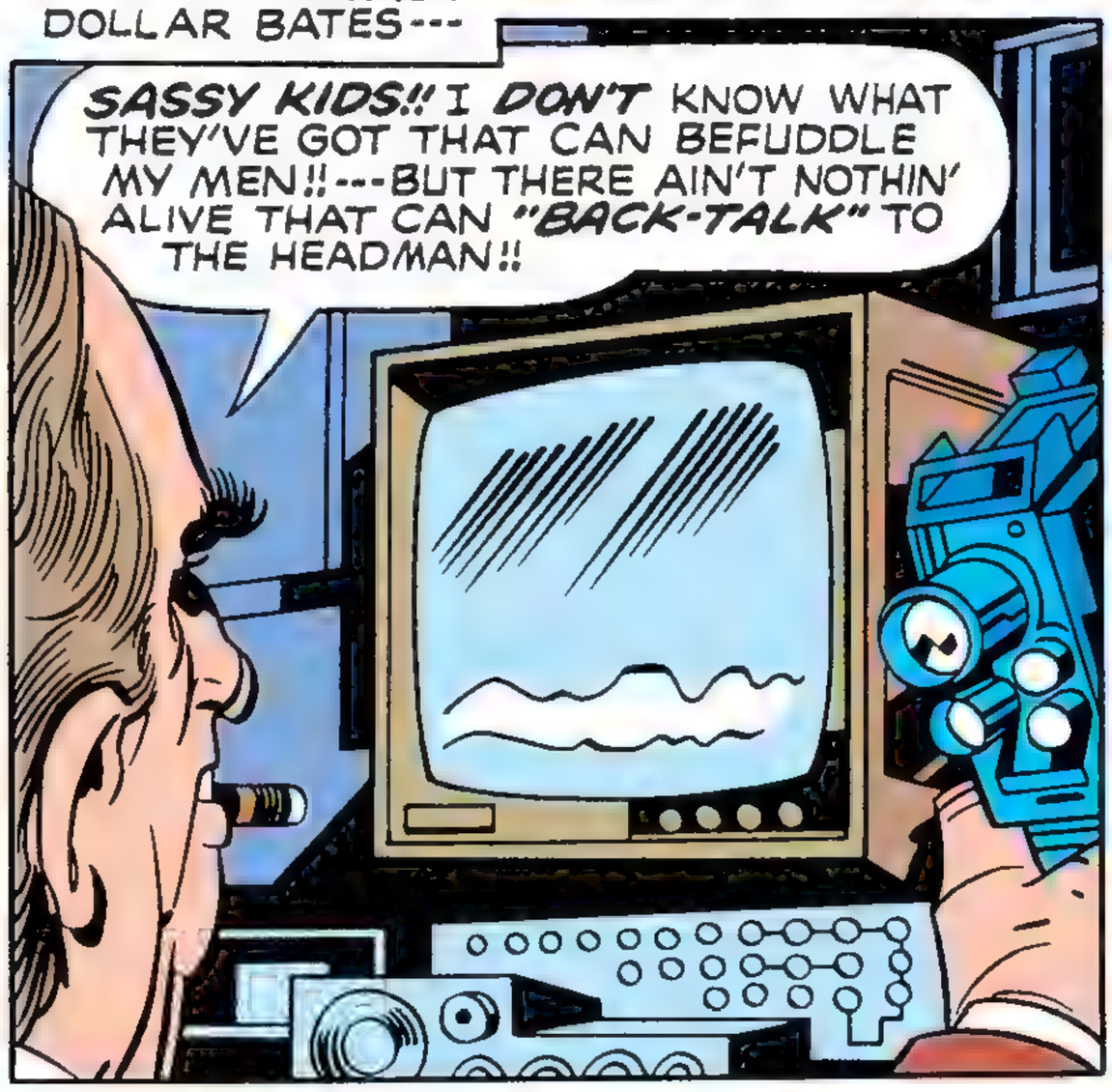

--BILLION-DOLLAR BATES!! THAT MEANS I'VE GOT MONEY, SON! THAT MEANS I'VE GOT ALL THAT GOES WITH IT---AND THEN SOME!!
I'VE JUST BEEN TOLD THAT MY MEN CAN'T HANDLE YOU!!

WELL, I CAN!! NOW---IN THE NEXT FEW SECONDS, ONE OF MY OFFICERS WILL CONTACT YOU!! YOU'RE TO OBEY ANY ORDER HE GIVES YOU!! ANY ORDER!!

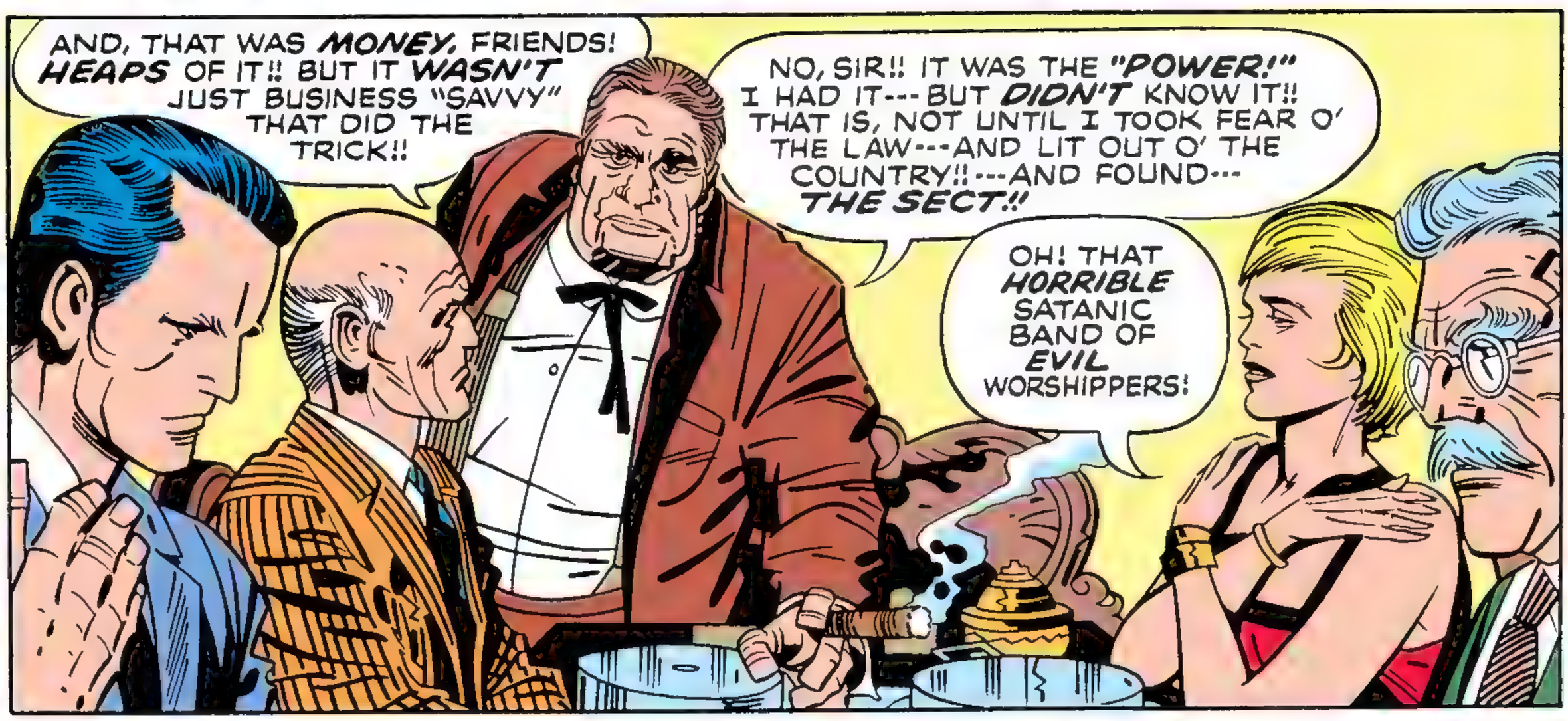
THAT'S AN ARBITRARY ATTITUDE YOU'VE GOT, SIR! WE MEAN TO RESIST ANY FURTHER ATTEMPT TO PLACE US IN JEOPARDY!
HA! YOU'D NEED THE POWERS OF DARKSEID HIMSELF TO MAKE THIS SCARE TACTIC WORK!!!
WHAT A WINDBAG!!

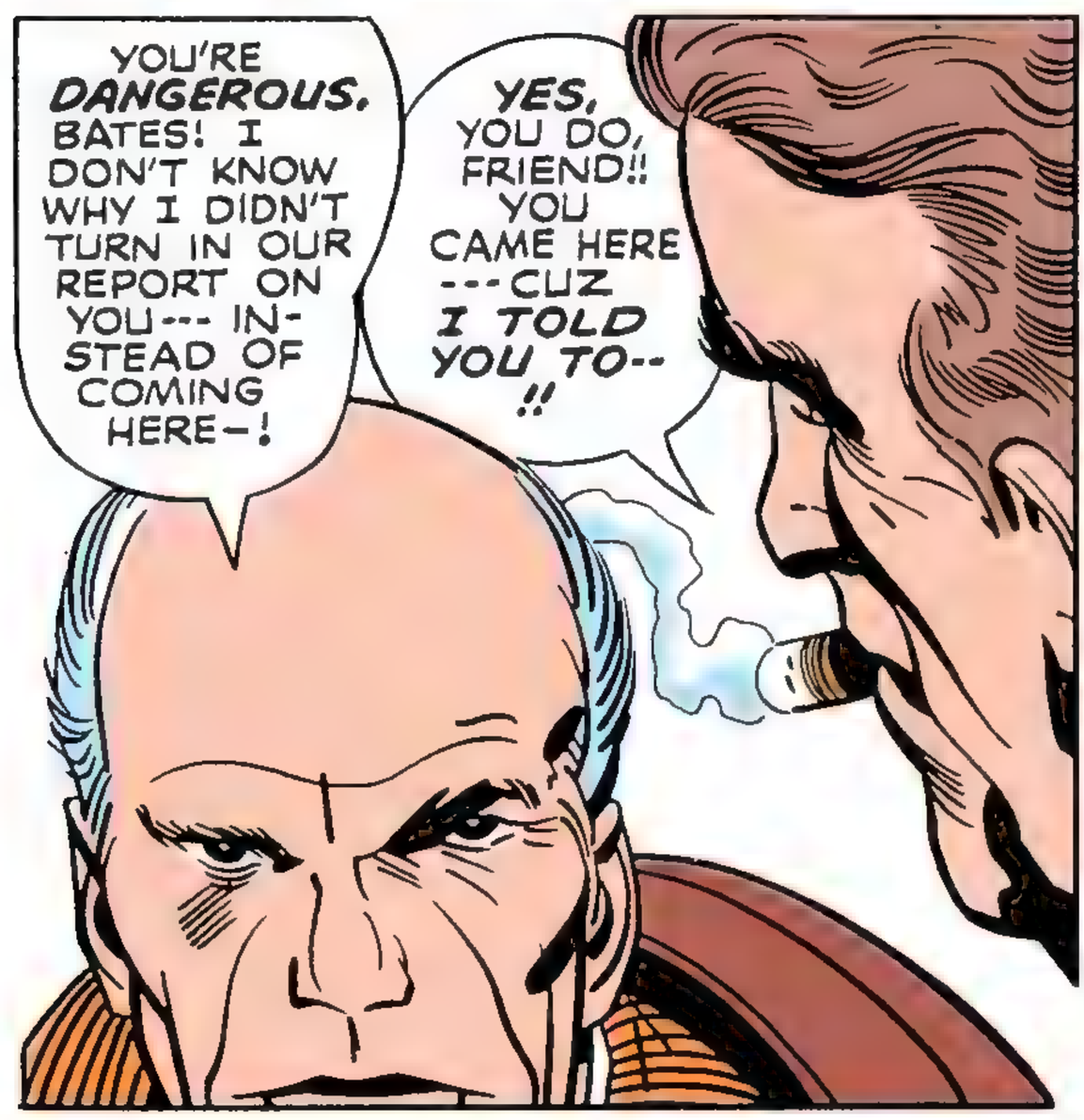
ALL RIGHT, YOU CHARACTERS!! ABOUT FACE!! STOP THE RAPPIN' AND FORM A LINE, SINGLE FILE!!

NOW-FOLLOW ME!!
THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!! BUT I MUST DO AS HE SAYS!
I-I CAN'T HELP BUT OBEY!
NOR I!
WHEREVER HE LEADS-- I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW !!!
12

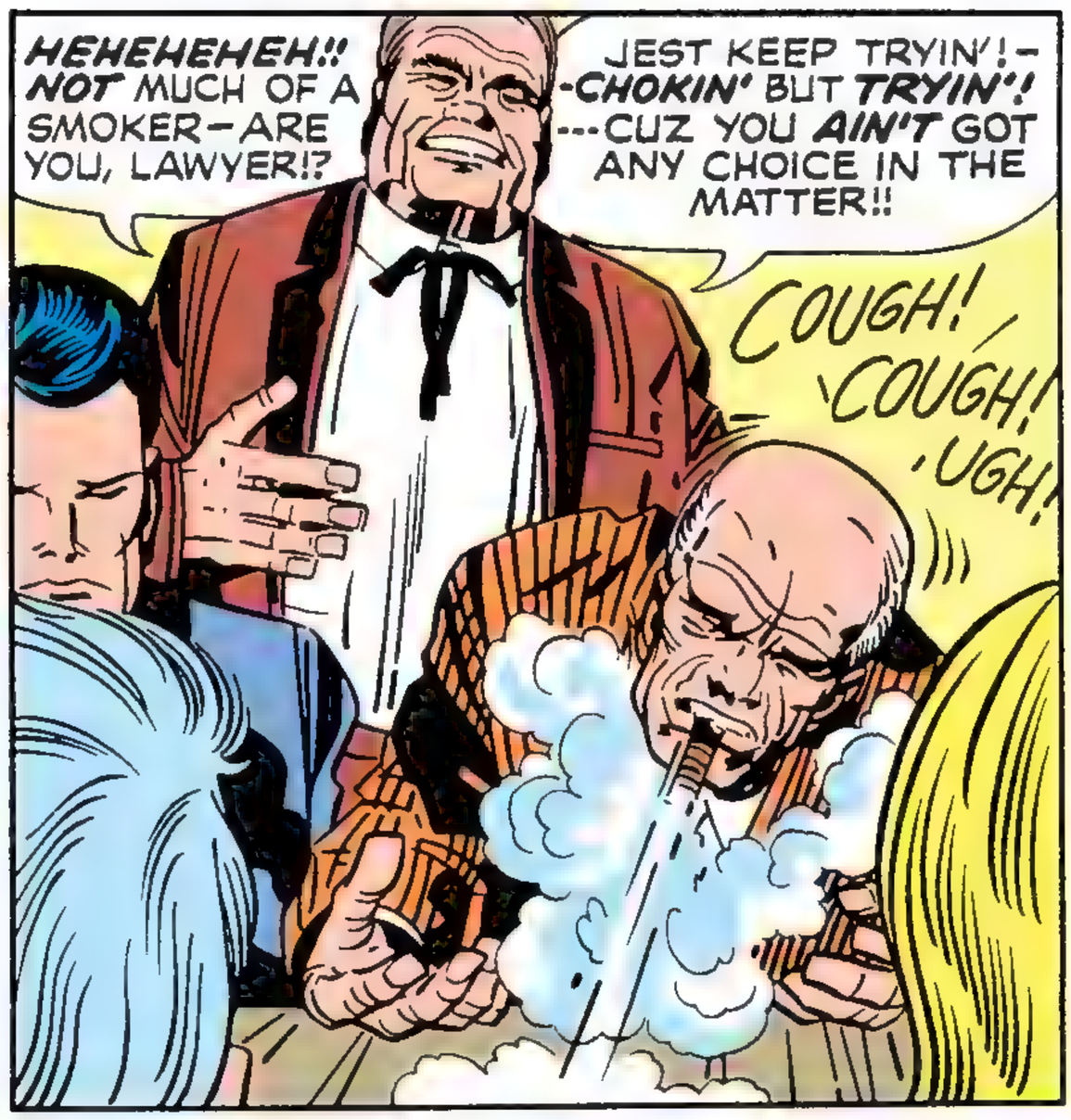

AND IN THE VAST RESIDENCE OF BILLION-DOLLAR BATES---
SASSY KIDS!! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'VE GOT THAT CAN BEFUDDLE MY MEN!!---BUT THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' ALIVE THAT CAN "BACK-TALK" TO THE HEADMAN!!

I GOT THE "POWER", FRIENDS! HAD IT SINCE BIRTH! BUT NEVER KNEW IT! I ALWAYS FIGGERED I GOT MY WAY CUZ I WAS A GREAT "WHEELER DEALER!"
WELL---SOME-HOW, FOLKS JUST KEPT GIVIN' ME WHATEVER I "WHEELED" AND "DEALED" FOR-!

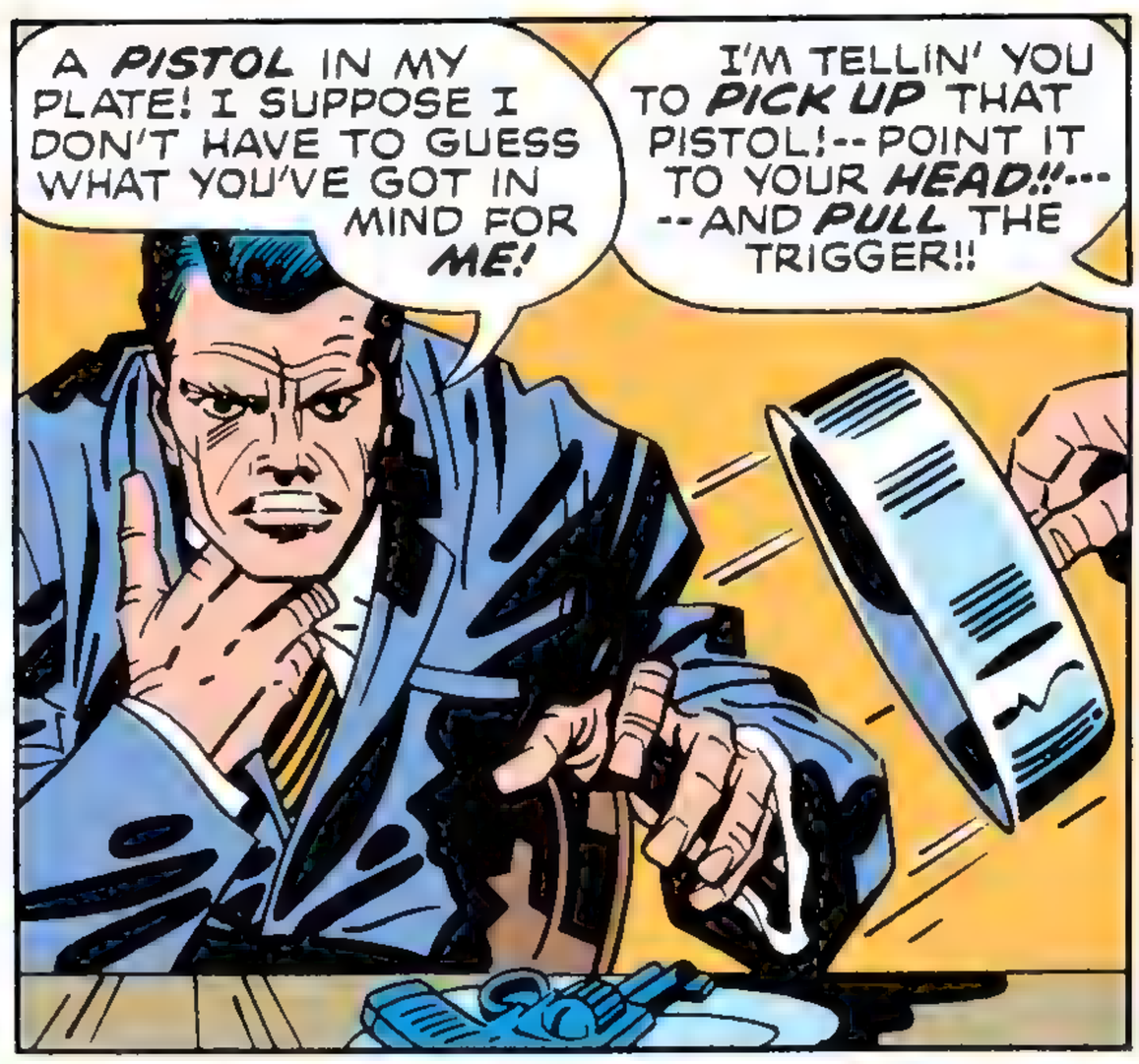

AND, THAT WAS MONEY, FRIENDS! HEAPS OF IT!! BUT IT WASN'T JUST BUSINESS "SAVVY" THAT DID THE TRICK!!
NO, SIR!! IT WAS THE "POWER!" I HAD IT---BUT DIDN'T KNOW IT!! THAT IS, NOT UNTIL I TOOK FEAR O' THE LAW---AND LIT OUT O' THE COUNTRY!!---AND FOUND--- THE SECT!!
OH! THAT HORRIBLE SATANIC BAND OF EVIL WORSHIPPERS!


YOU'RE DANGEROUS, BATES! I DON'T KNOW WHY I DIDN'T TURN IN OUR REPORT ON YOU--- IN-STEAD OF COMING HERE-!
YES, YOU DO, FRIEND!! YOU CAME HERE ---CUZ I TOLD YOU TO-- !!

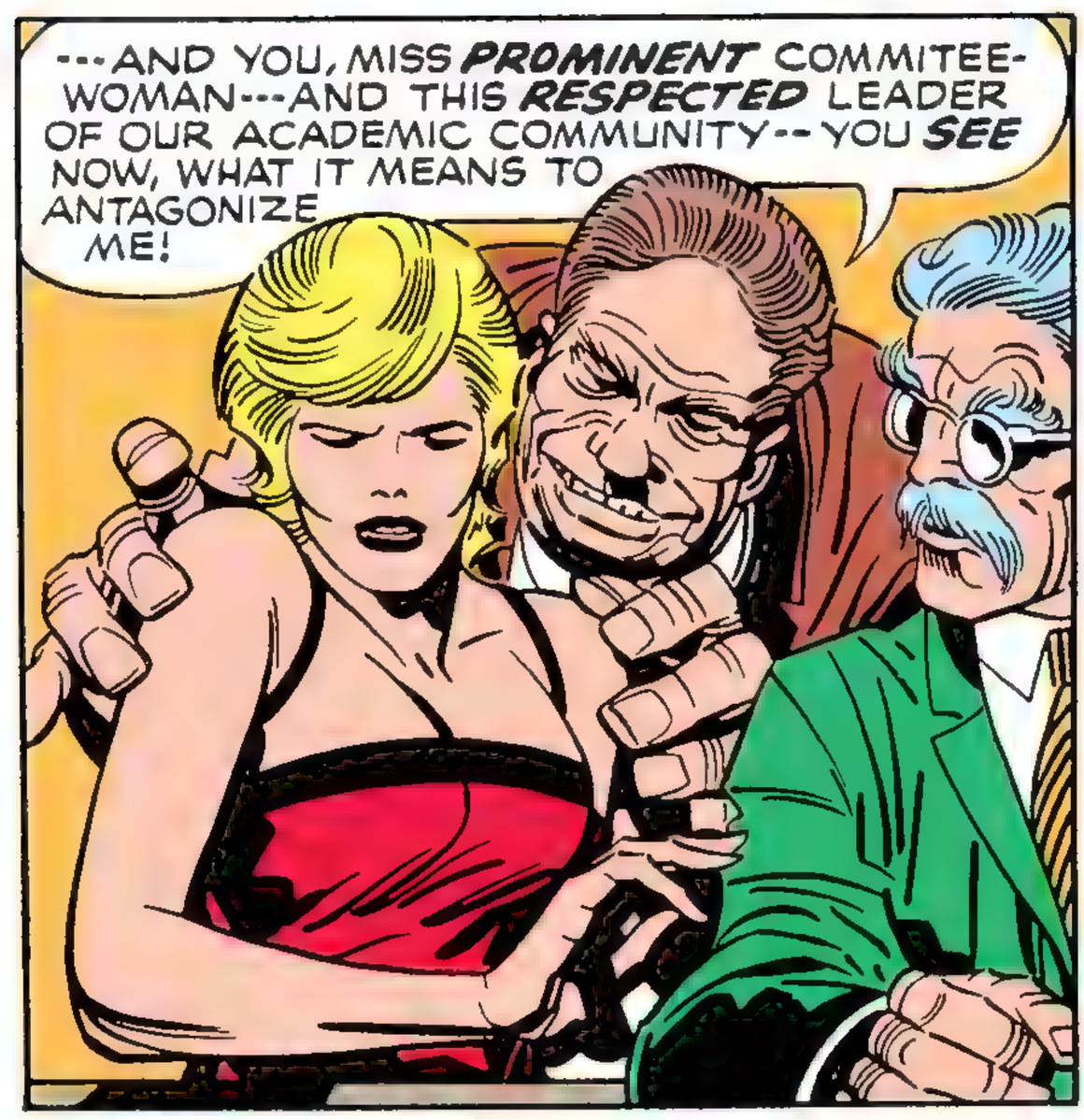
MY CIGAR SEEMS TO BOTHER YOU!! GUESS IT'S KINDA STRONG'N' SMELLY-LIKE, EH? MEBBE YOU'D CHANGE YORE MIND IF YOU TRIED A PUFF!!
I SAID-- SMOKE IT!!


HEHEHEHEH!! NOT MUCH OF A SMOKER—ARE YOU, LAWYER!?
JEST KEEP TRYIN'!—-CHOKIN' BUT TRYIN'!---CUZ YOU AIN'T GOT ANY CHOICE IN THE MATTER!!
COUGH! COUGH! UGH!

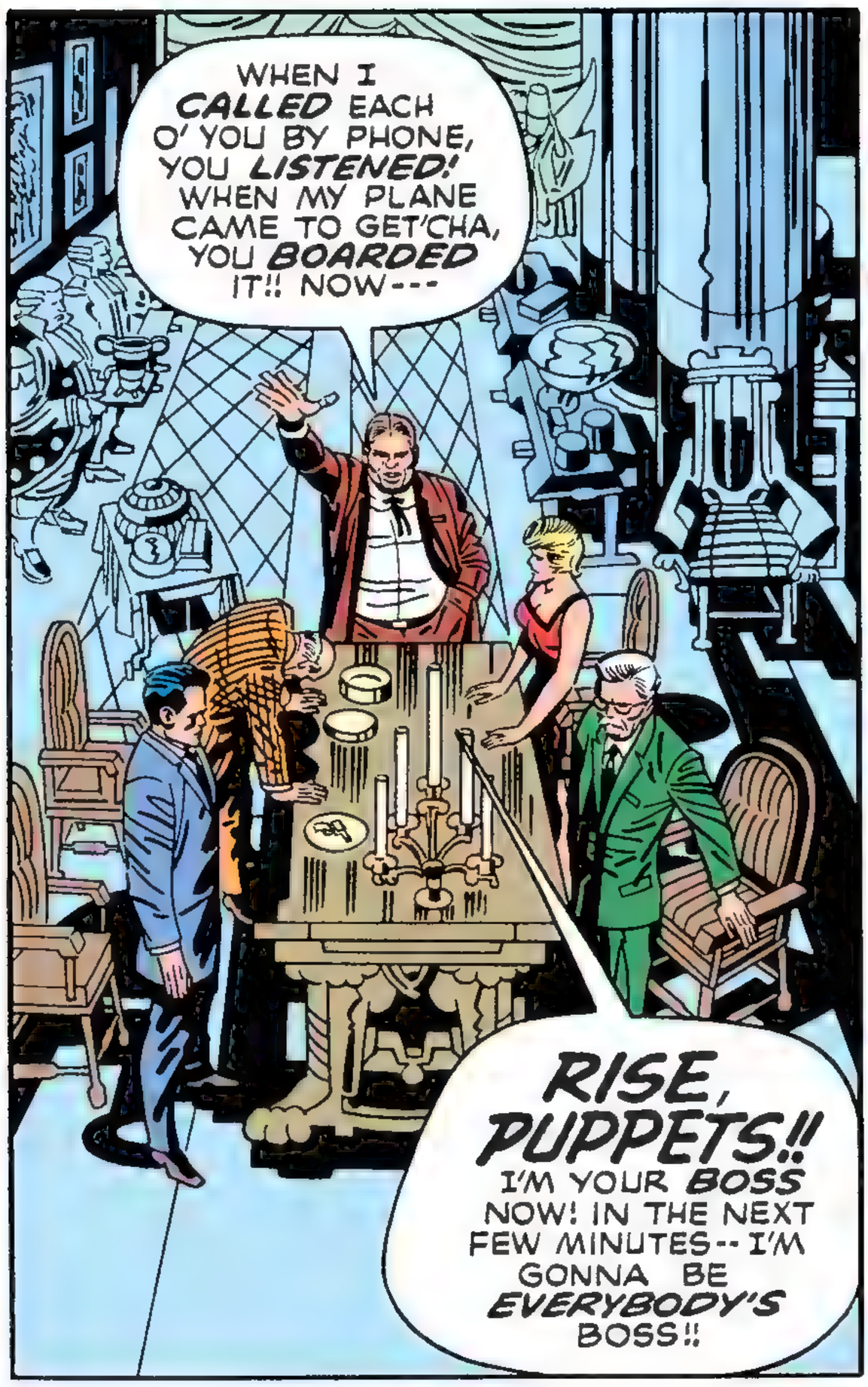
HOW 'BOUT THAT, MISTER BIG PUBLISHER!! HE'S GONNA SMOKE THAT CIGAR UNTIL I SAY HE KIN DROP IT! YOU BELIEVE THAT?
I BELIEVE IT, BATES! I BELIEVE YOU'VE ACQUIRED SOME KIND OF STRANGE POWER!


A PISTOL IN MY PLATE! I SUPPOSE I DON'T HAVE TO GUESS WHAT YOU'VE GOT IN MIND FOR ME!
I'M TELLIN' YOU TO PICK UP THAT PISTOL!--POINT IT TO YOUR HEAD!!---AND PULL THE TRIGGER!!

HUH!! YOU'D KILL YERSELF QUICK AS A WHISTLE!—IF THERE WERE BULLETS IN THAT GUN!!
KLIK! KLIK! KLIK


---AND YOU, MISS PROMINENT COMMITEE-WOMAN---AND THIS RESPECTED LEADER OF OUR ACADEMIC COMMUNITY--YOU SEE NOW, WHAT IT MEANS TO ANTAGONIZE ME!

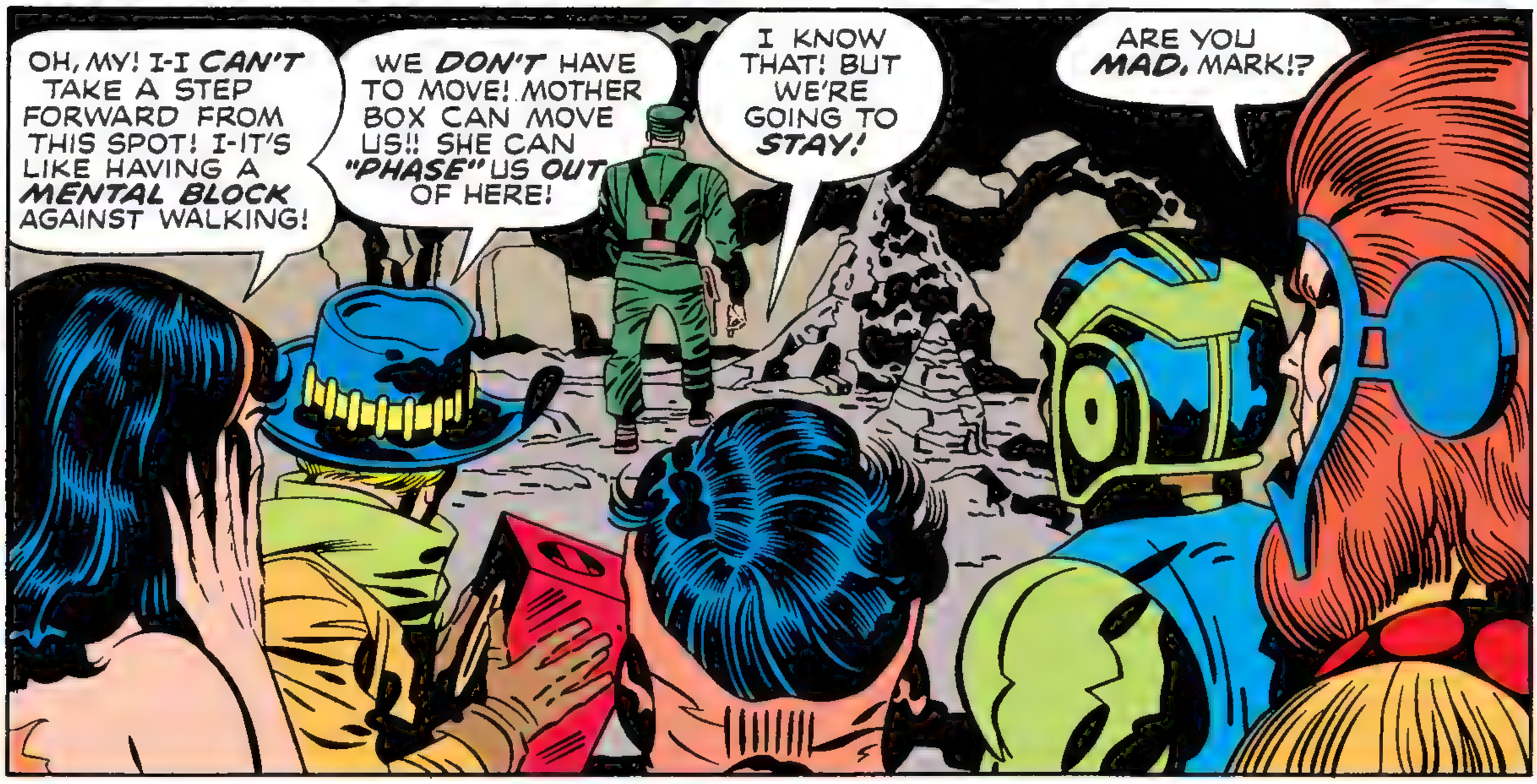
LOOK AT'CHA!! THE NATIONAL PANEL APPOINTED BY CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE THE DEALINGS OF BILLION-DOLLAR BATES!!---WELL, NOW, YOU'RE NO MORE'N MY PUPPETS!!
14

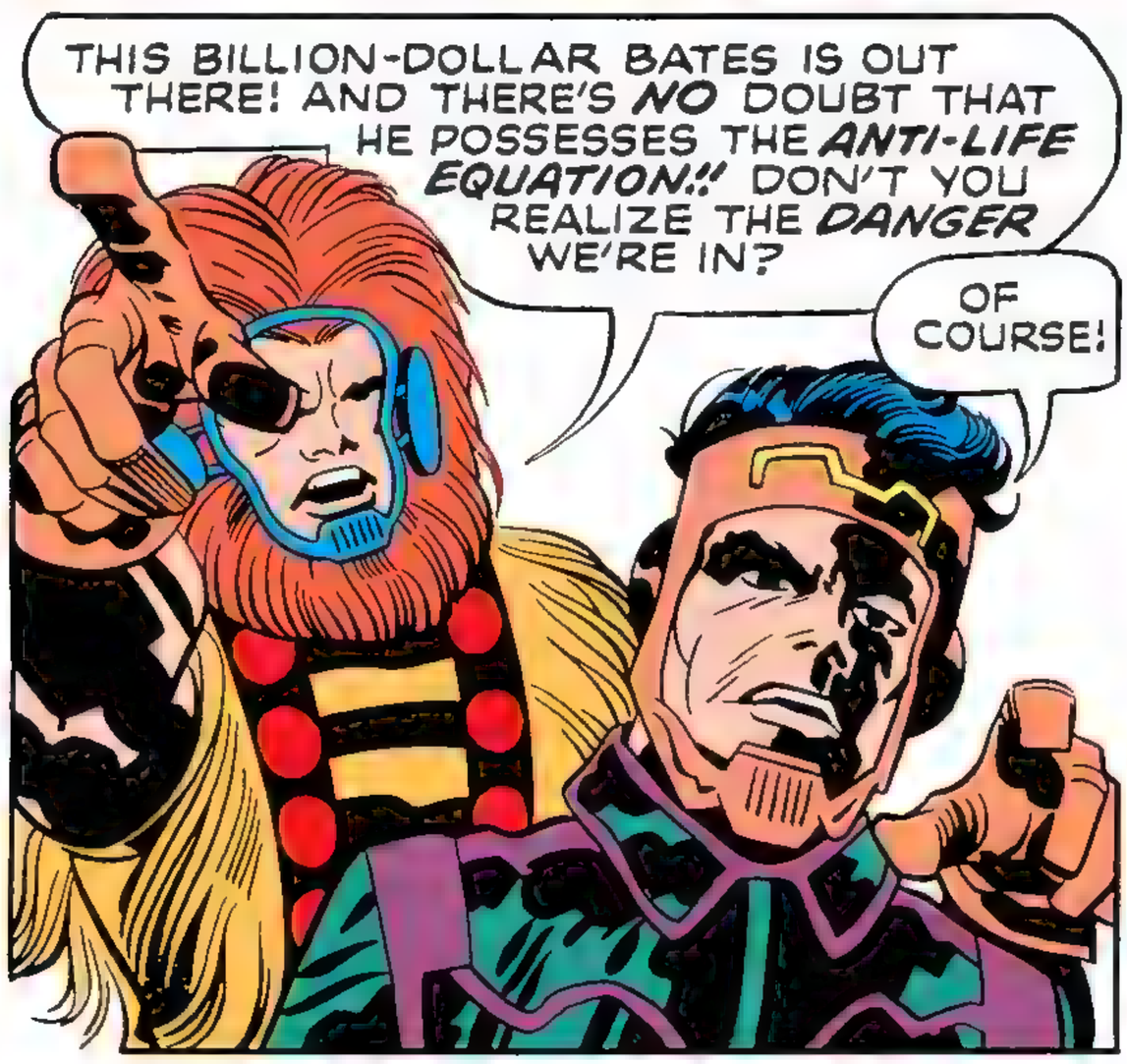

WHEN I CALLED EACH O' YOU BY PHONE, YOU LISTENED! WHEN MY PLANE CAME TO GET'CHA, YOU BOARDED IT!! NOW---
RISE, PUPPETS!! I'M YOUR BOSS NOW! IN THE NEXT FEW MINUTES-- I'M GONNA BE EVERYBODY'S BOSS!!

O'COURSE, IT'S GONNA TAKE A LITTLE "MUMBO JUMBO" TO SATISFY THE SECT! BUT I OWE IT TO 'EM! FOLLOW ME! WE'RE GONNA TAKE THIS ELEVATOR DOWN TO THE CATACOMBS!
THEN THE RUMORS ARE TRUE! YOU DO CONDUCT SECRET RITUALS ON THIS ESTATE!

WELL, WHATEVER THESE MYSTICS HAVE RELEASED IN YOUR MIND, BATES--- IT MAY BECOME TOO BIG FOR YOU TO HANDLE!!
JEST KEEP TELLIN' THAT TO YERSELF, PUPPET!! KEEP HOPIN' IT--- EVEN AS I SPREAD THE "POWER" WORLDWIDE !!

MEANWHILE, IN THE CAVES BELOW---
WELL, YOU BROUGHT US HERE! WHAT NOW!?
YES! WHAT NOW!?
THAT'S ENOUGH OUTTA YOU TWO!! YOU ALL WAIT HERE! DON'T MOVE UNTIL I GET BACK!!
B
15


OH, MY! I-I CAN'T TAKE A STEP FORWARD FROM THIS SPOT! I-IT'S LIKE HAVING A MENTAL BLOCK AGAINST WALKING!
WE DON'T HAVE TO MOVE! MOTHER BOX CAN MOVE US!! SHE CAN "PHASE" US OUT OF HERE!
I KNOW THAT! BUT WE'RE GOING TO STAY!
ARE YOU MAD, MARK!?


THIS BILLION-DOLLAR BATES IS OUT THERE! AND THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT HE POSSESSES THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION!! DON'T YOU REALIZE THE DANGER WE'RE IN?
OF COURSE!

MANY EARTHMEN ARE FOOLISH AND RUTHLESS! THIS BATES MAY DECIDE TO DESTROY US!!
A-AND WE COULDN'T STOP HIM!!

WE MUST IGNORE THAT POSSIBILITY! WE MUST SOMEHOW DISARM THIS MAN BATES AND MAKE CERTAIN HIS POWER IS NEUTRALIZED!!
BUT HOW, MARK? EVEN DARKSEID HIMSELF WOULD FEAR SUCH A TASK!

EITHER WE MOVE ON BATES ---OR OUR ENEMY DOES!! FEAR WON'T STOP DARKSEID!
TELL US WHAT TO DO, MARK!
16

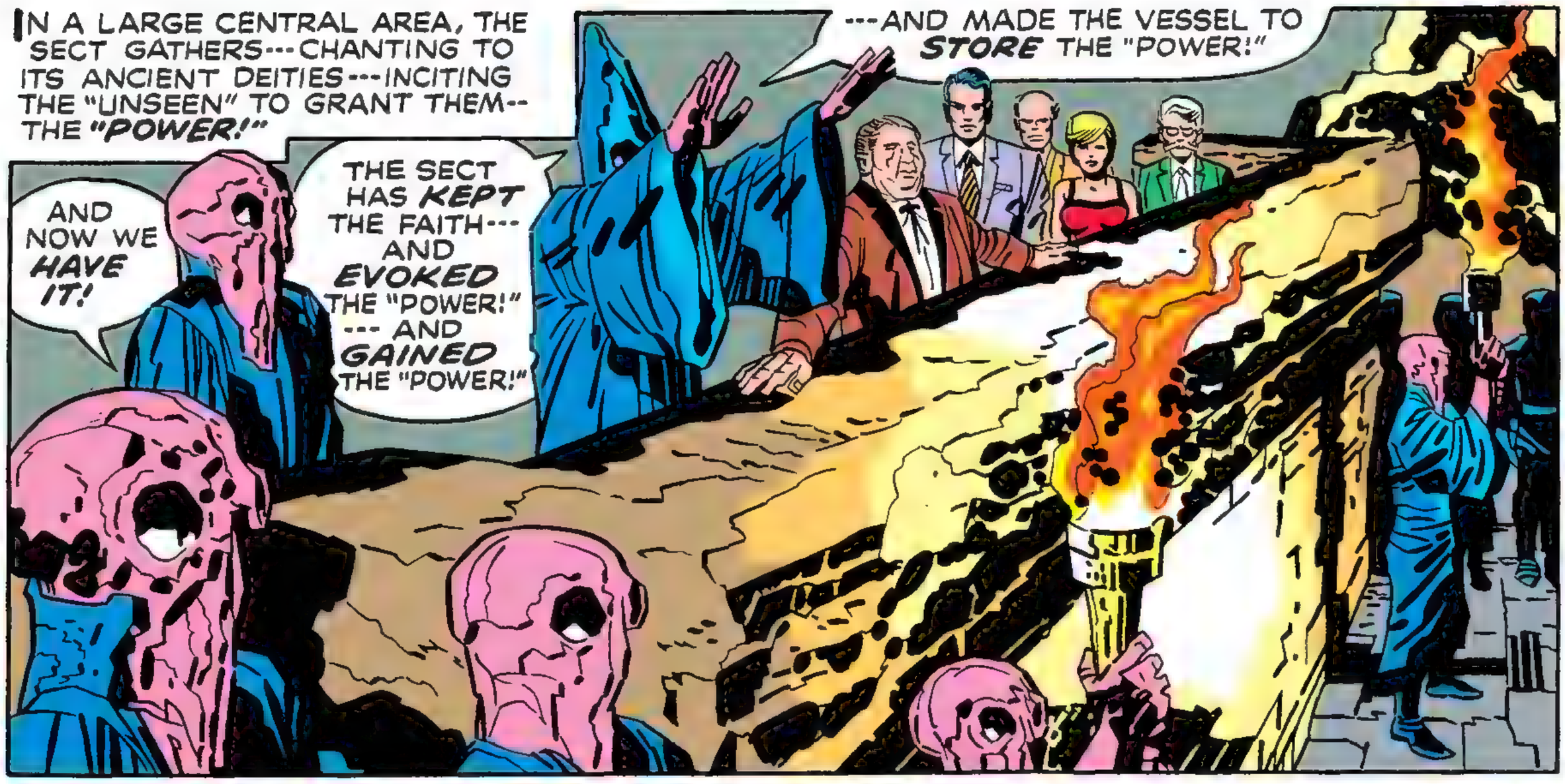
SOON AFTER, THE GUARD RETURNS--- WITH MASKED MEMBERS OF THE SECT!!

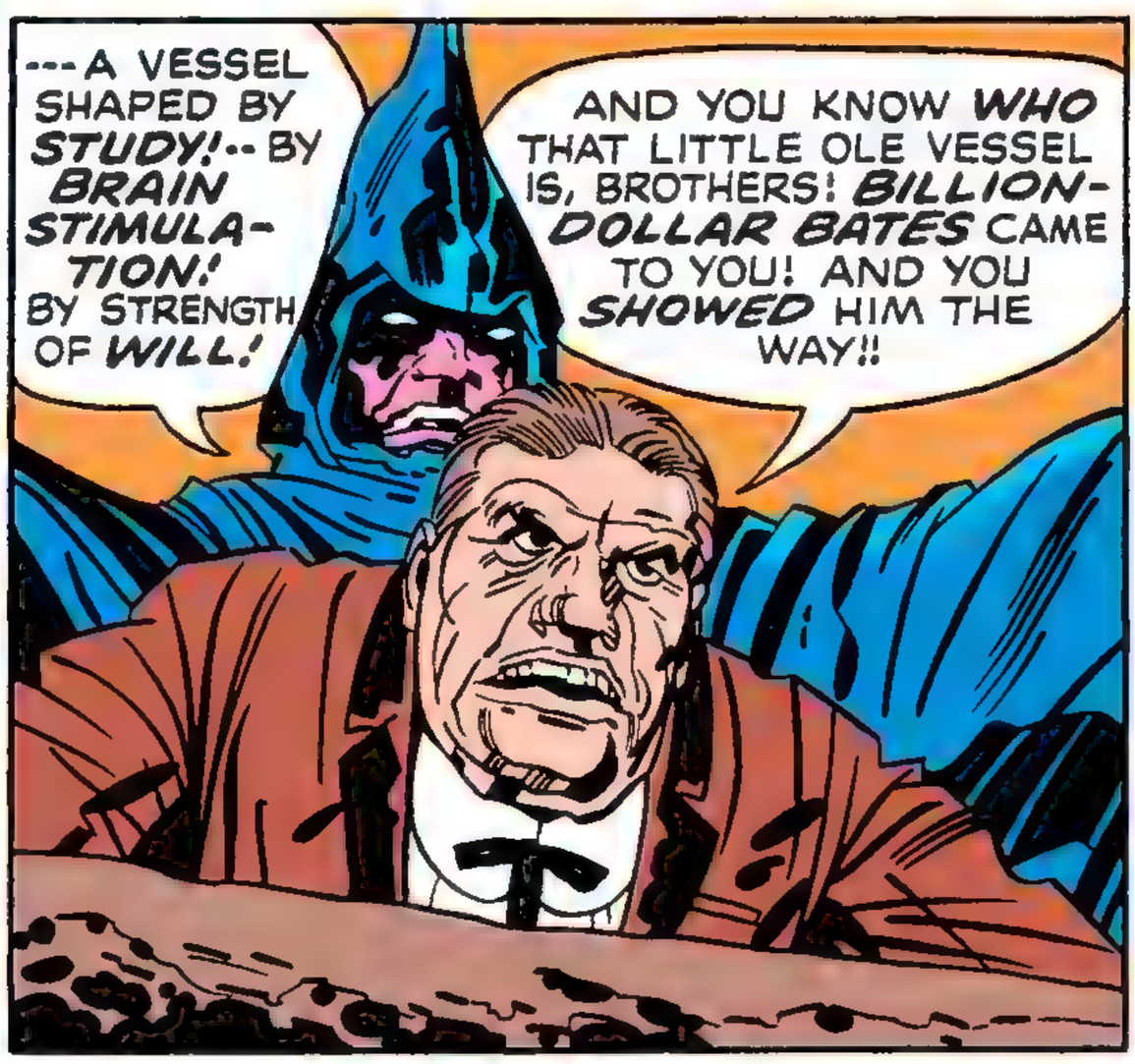
WHA-?

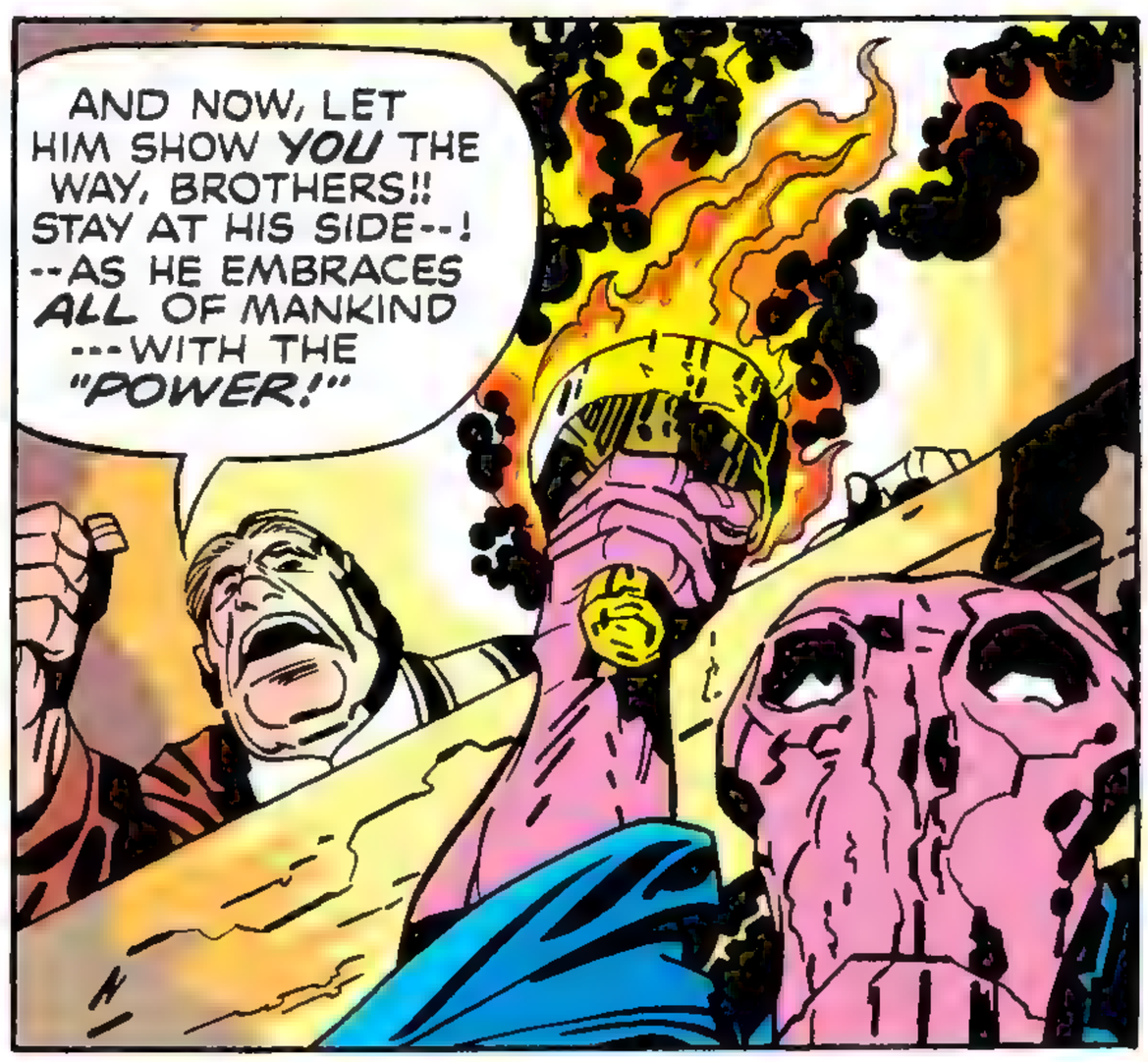
STAND FAST, PUPPETS!! DON'T RESIST THE CHAINS OR STOCKS!

WELL--! YOU TYPES WILL MAKE PERFECT OFFERINGS TO THE FORCES OF THE MYSTIC UNKNOWN!!

YOU HEARD THEM! DON'T RESIST ANYTHING THEY DO!! I'LL BE AT MY POST--- WHICH WON'T BE FAR FROM THE BIG SHOW!!


IN A LARGE CENTRAL AREA, THE SECT GATHERS---CHANTING TO ITS ANCIENT DEITIES---INCITING THE "UNSEEN" TO GRANT THEM--THE "POWER!"
AND NOW WE HAVE IT!
THE SECT HAS KEPT THE FAITH--- AND EVOKED THE "POWER!" --- AND GAINED THE "POWER!"
---AND MADE THE VESSEL TO STORE THE "POWER!"


---A VESSEL SHAPED BY STUDY!-- BY BRAIN STIMULATION! BY STRENGTH OF WILL!
AND YOU KNOW WHO THAT LITTLE OLE VESSEL IS, BROTHERS! BILLION-DOLLAR BATES CAME TO YOU! AND YOU SHOWED HIM THE WAY!!


AND NOW, LET HIM SHOW YOU THE WAY, BROTHERS!! STAY AT HIS SIDE--! --AS HE EMBRACES ALL OF MANKIND ---WITH THE "POWER!"

AFTER YEARS OF GENERATING THE "POWER" IN SECRECY, ---BUILDING IT TO ITS FULL AND FEARSOME POTENCY--- I ESTABLISH IT, THIS NIGHT, AS WORLD REGENCY!!!
AND MAN WILL ANSWER, BROTHER BATES! MAN WILL ANSWER!!

MAN WILL ANSWER BECAUSE HE MUST ANSWER! HE WILL BE AS THESE SYMBOLS ABOUT TO BE REVEALED!!
B
18

BEHOLD, BROTHERS! BEHOLD THE LIVING SYMBOLS OF MANKIND WITHOUT THE GUIDANCE OF THE "POWER!" HIS MIND IS FREE AND AIMLESS! HIS BODY SHACKLED BY DISUNITY!

WOW! GET THAT ORWELL "DOUBLE THINK!"

I'VE READ "1984"--- IT SOUNDS NASTIER ---WHEN SPOKEN!!

IT'S LIKE WATCHING DARKSEID'S IMAGE REFLECTED IN A HUMAN MIRROR!!

TONIGHT, WE'RE GONNA HARNESS THOSE MINDS, BROTHERS—! UNIFY THOSE MINDS IN BATES' THOUGHTS! FREE THEIR BODIES--- FOR BATES' ORDERS!

—AND GLORIFY OUR TRIUMPH BY OBLITERATIN' THESE UGLY SYMBOLS OF "FREE MAN!"

-OH-OH!

IN THE NAME OF THE "POWER" I ONCE AGAIN PUT ON THE "STIMULUS HAT!"---WHICH IN THIS CENTURY HAS FOUND WHAT THE ANCIENT SECT BROTHERS HAVE SEARCHED FOR!

ITS RIGHTFUL WEARER—!

---WHOSE MIND WILL NOW STIR THE MYSTIC CIRCUITS TO SURGE BEYOND ALL HORIZONS!

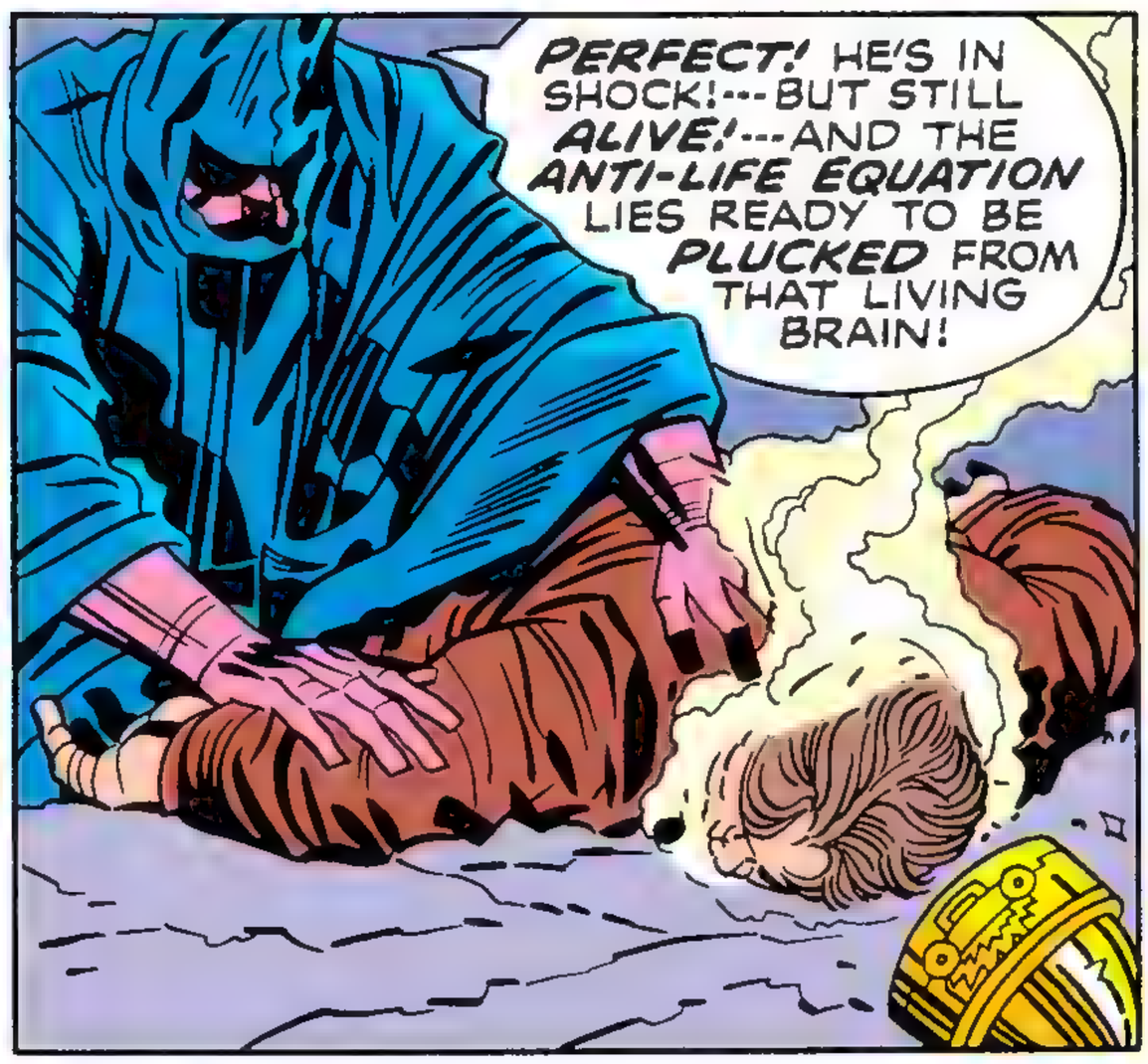
---AND GRIP! ---AND HOLD! ---AND UNIFY! ALL WITHIN RANGE OF THE "POWER!"

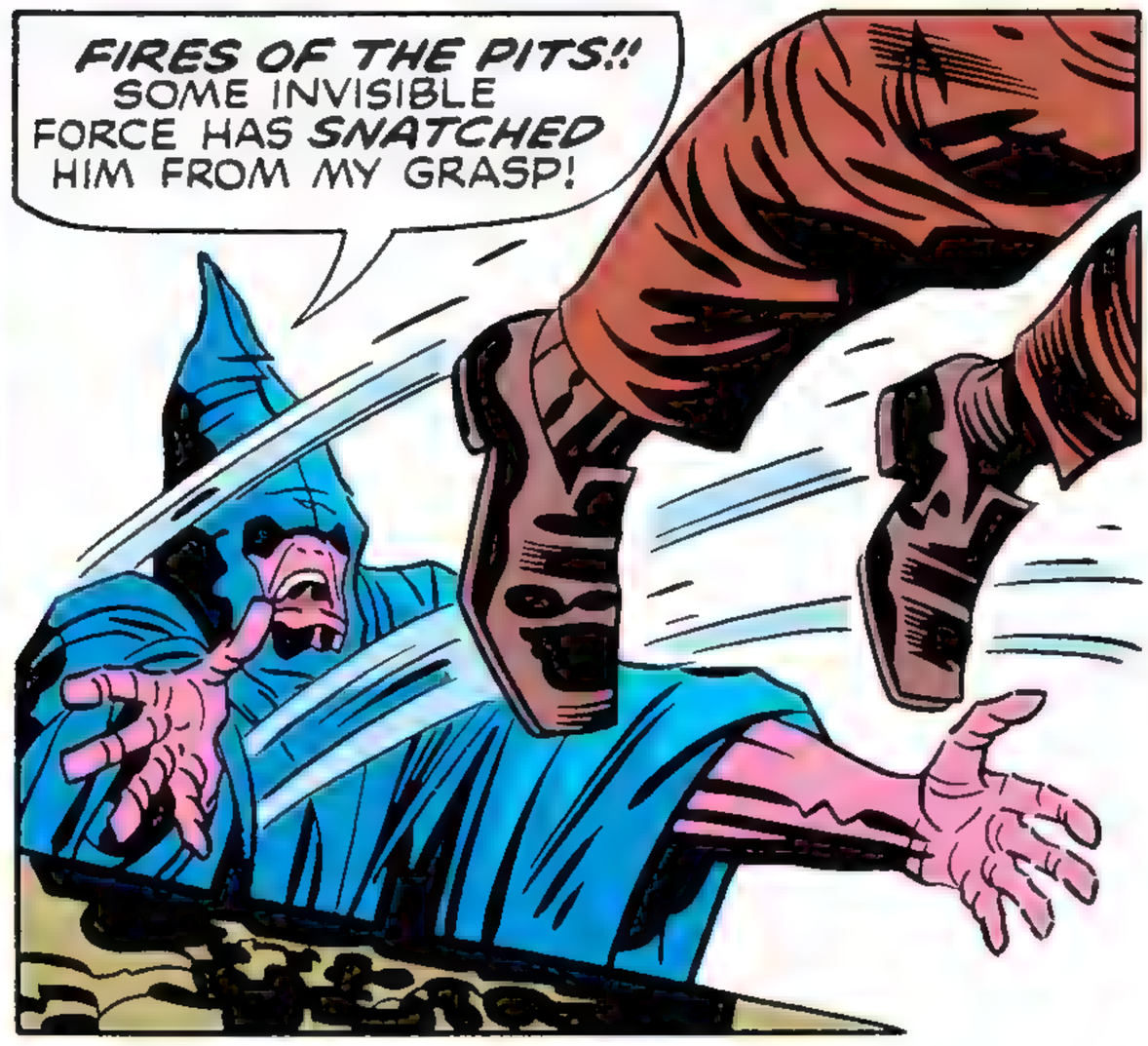
19

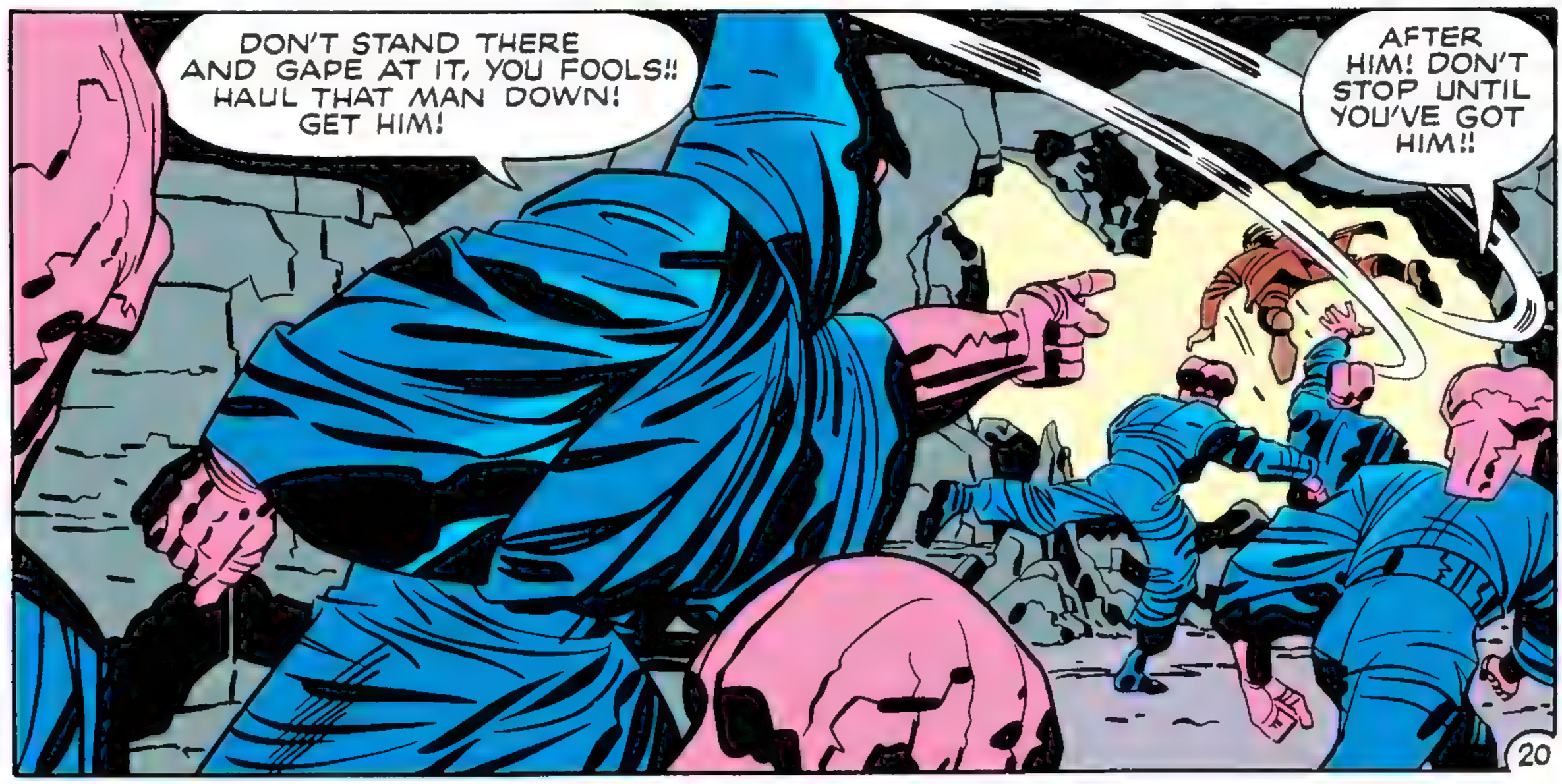
PLACED ON THE HEAD OF BILLION-DOLLAR BATES, THE "STIMULUS HAT" LEAPS TO LIGHT AND CRACKLES WITH COSMIC ENERGY!

SUDDENLY, THE ENERGY INTENSIFIES!---GROWS BRIGHTER! ---GROWS UNBEARABLY BRIGHTER!
AAAAAAA!

THEN—!
WHAM!


PERFECT! HE'S IN SHOCK!---BUT STILL ALIVE!---AND THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION LIES READY TO BE PLUCKED FROM THAT LIVING BRAIN!

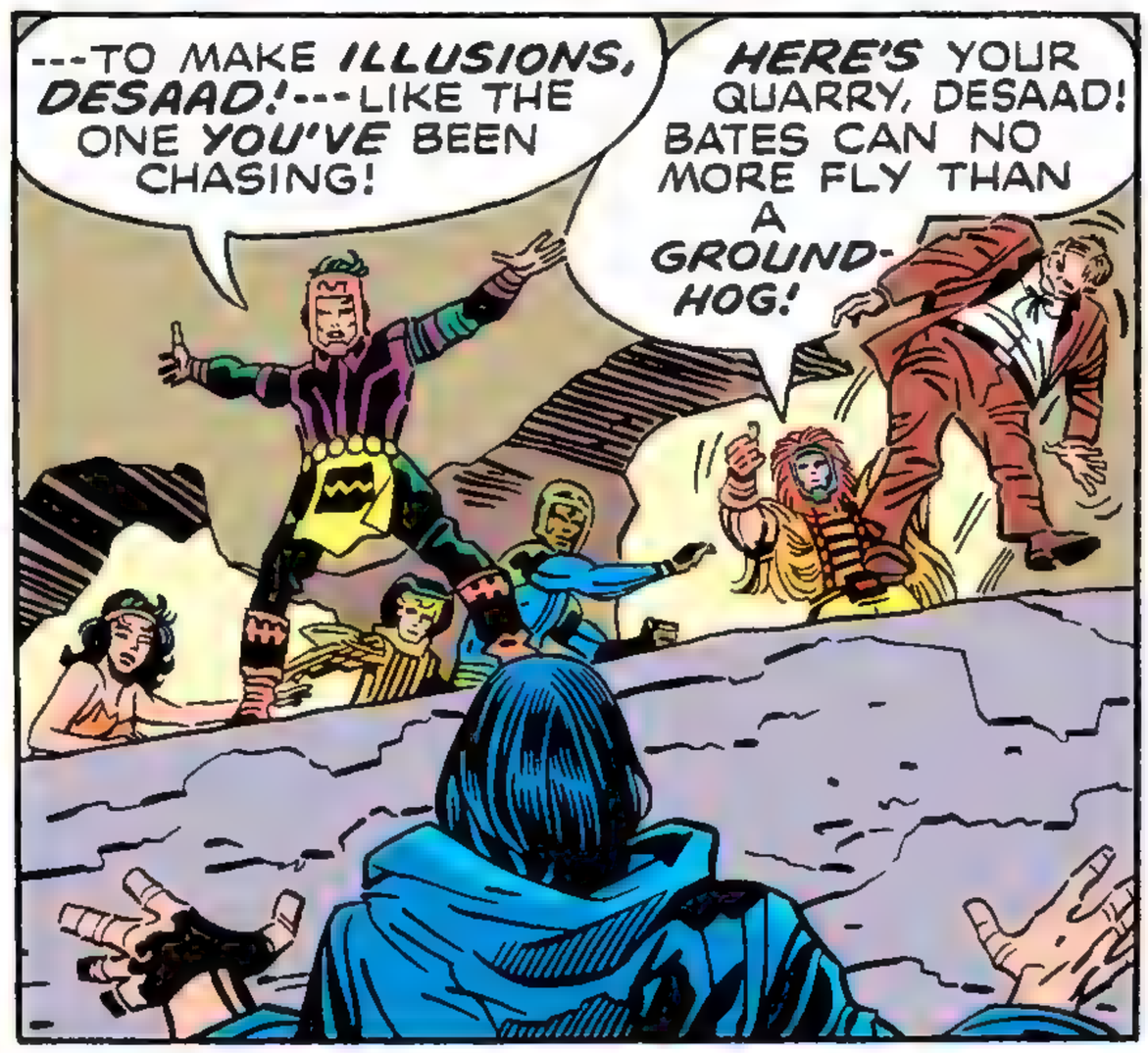

FIRES OF THE PITS!! SOME INVISIBLE FORCE HAS SNATCHED HIM FROM MY GRASP!


DON'T STAND THERE AND GAPE AT IT, YOU FOOLS!! HAUL THAT MAN DOWN! GET HIM!
AFTER HIM! DON'T STOP UNTIL YOU'VE GOT HIM!!
20

WAIT! WHERE ARE THE PRISONERS THAT WERE BOUND IN THOSE STOCKS AND CHAINS!?
THE BIG, HAIRY ONE-! ---HE'S GONE! VANISHED!!

IDIOTS! YOU'RE BEARING EMPTY CHAINS!
I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND, SIRE!! THE PRISONERS WERE IN OUR KEEP! THEY COULDN'T HAVE--!

THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE, YOU DOLTS! THE FOREVER PEOPLE WERE NEVER IN YOUR KEEP! YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED BY THE FEMALE! SHE HAS THE POWER TO---


---TO MAKE ILLUSIONS, DESAAD!---LIKE THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN CHASING!
HERE'S YOUR QUARRY, DESAAD! BATES CAN NO MORE FLY THAN A GROUND-HOG!

NOW, GOOD FRIENDS---LET'S LEAVE WITH OUR PRIZE!
21

THERE'S A CLEAR CORRIDOR! SERIFAN CAN ACTIVATE MOTHER BOX AND PHASE US OUT!!
HURRY! IF DESAAD IS HERE, DARKSEID CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND!!

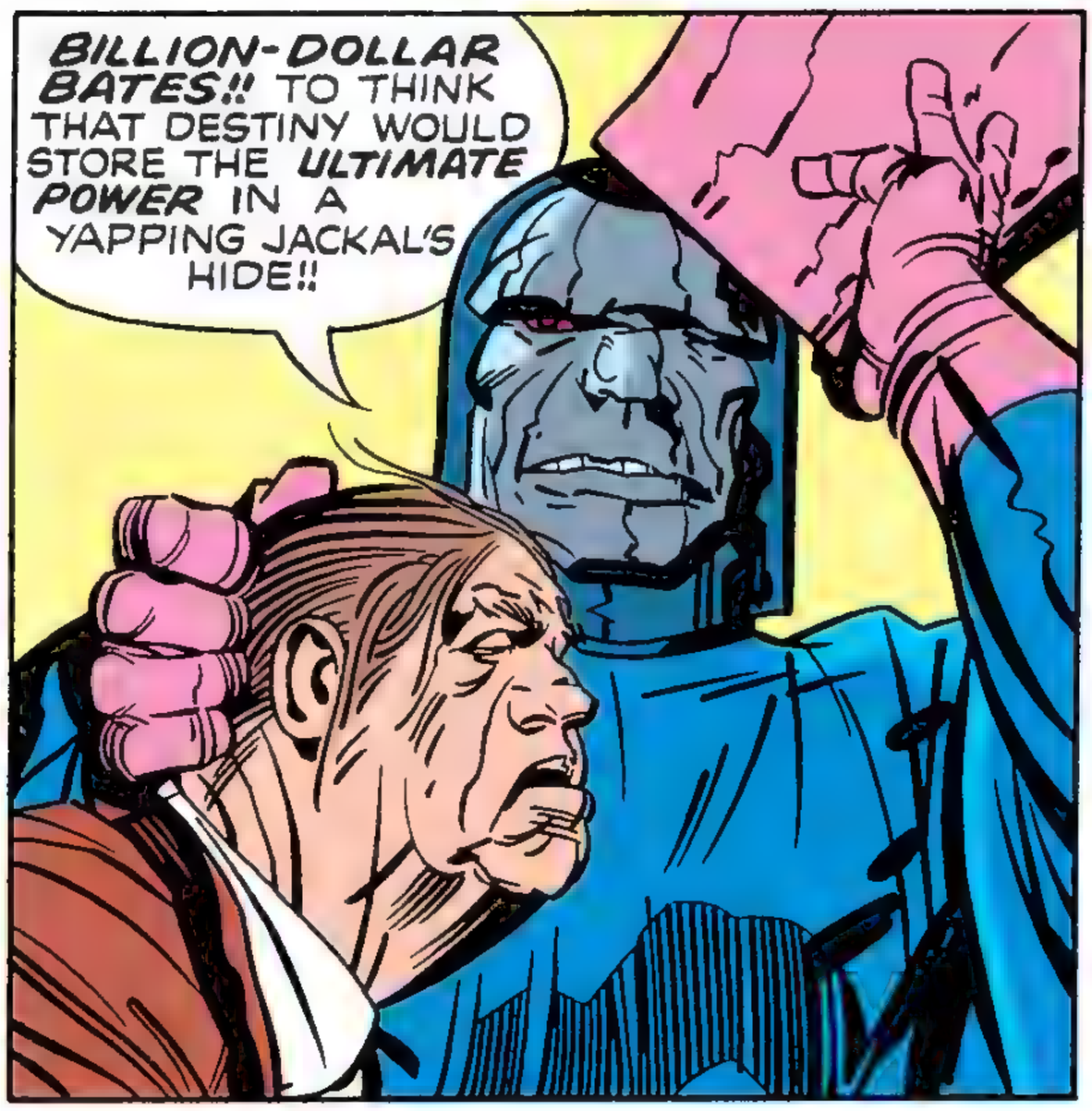
HOLD IT! I-I THINK THAT-WE'VE-FOUND-HIM!
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT!
IF YOU STILL FEAR THE OMEGA EFFECT-YOU'LL HAND OVER BATES!

THE OMEGA EFFECT CAN'T WIPE US OUT WITHOUT STRIKING BATES--
WHA--!
BAM
BAM

THREE SHOTS RING OUT---AND THEN, A DEEP SILENCE FILLS THE CAVES!!
MISTER BATES--- WHEN I SAW HIM IN THEIR HANDS---I--I-- REACTED---TOO FAST--!

KRAK!

THAT PRICELESS BRAIN ---WITH ITS ANTI-LIFE EQUATION ---LOST!!
FORGIVE ME, SIRE! I BROUGHT THE GUARD! I KNEW HE WAS GIVEN POWER OVER THE FOREVER PEOPLE!! I—
22


BILLION-DOLLAR BATES!! TO THINK THAT DESTINY WOULD STORE THE ULTIMATE POWER IN A YAPPING JACKAL'S HIDE!!

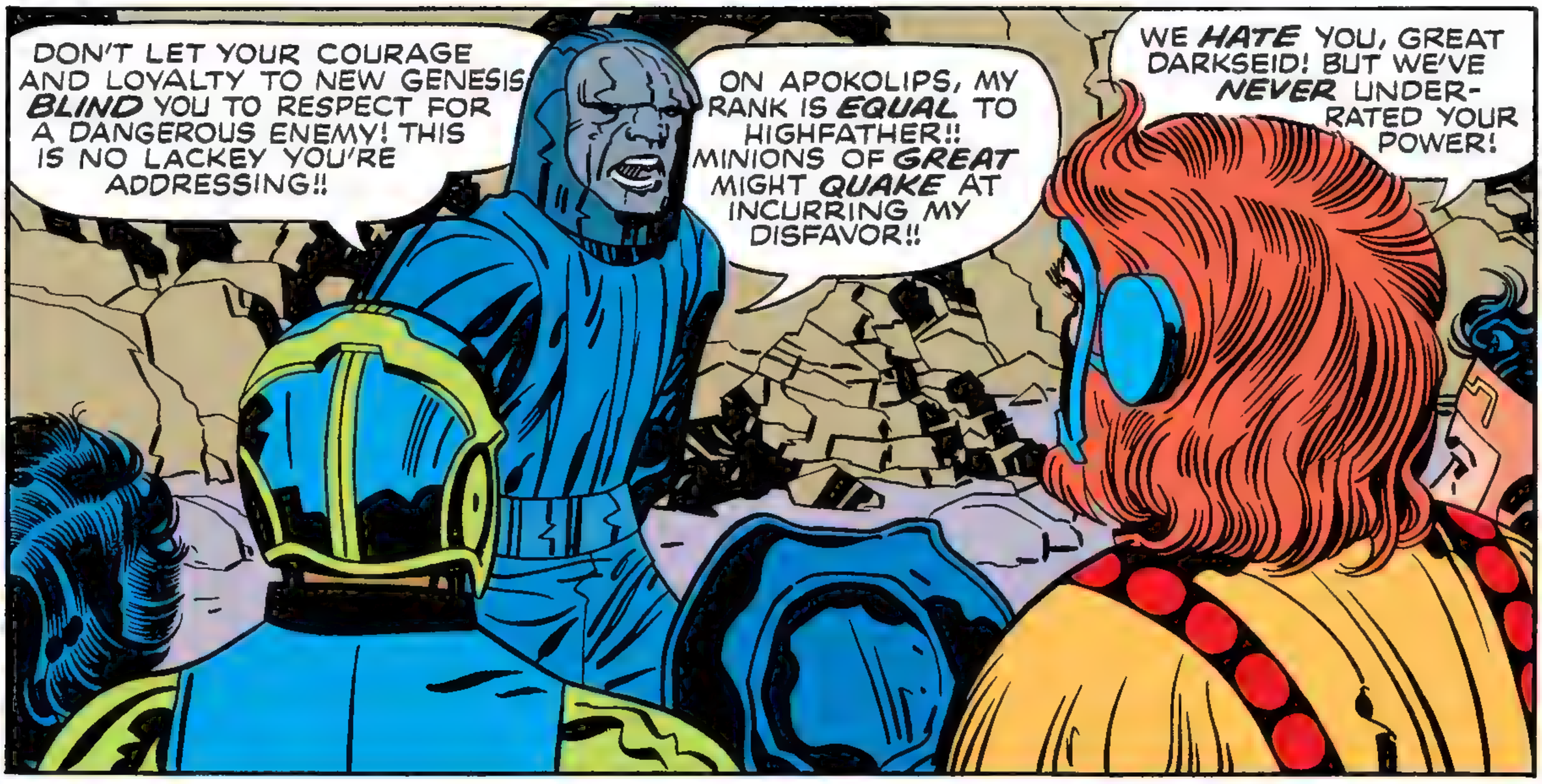
---WHILE DARKSEID,---THE SPEARHEAD OF PURE ELEMENTAL FORCE--MUST THIRST FOR THAT KNOWLEDGE!
YES! HOW DISGUSTINGLY DEMOCRATIC THE FATES ARE! ---SIRE!!

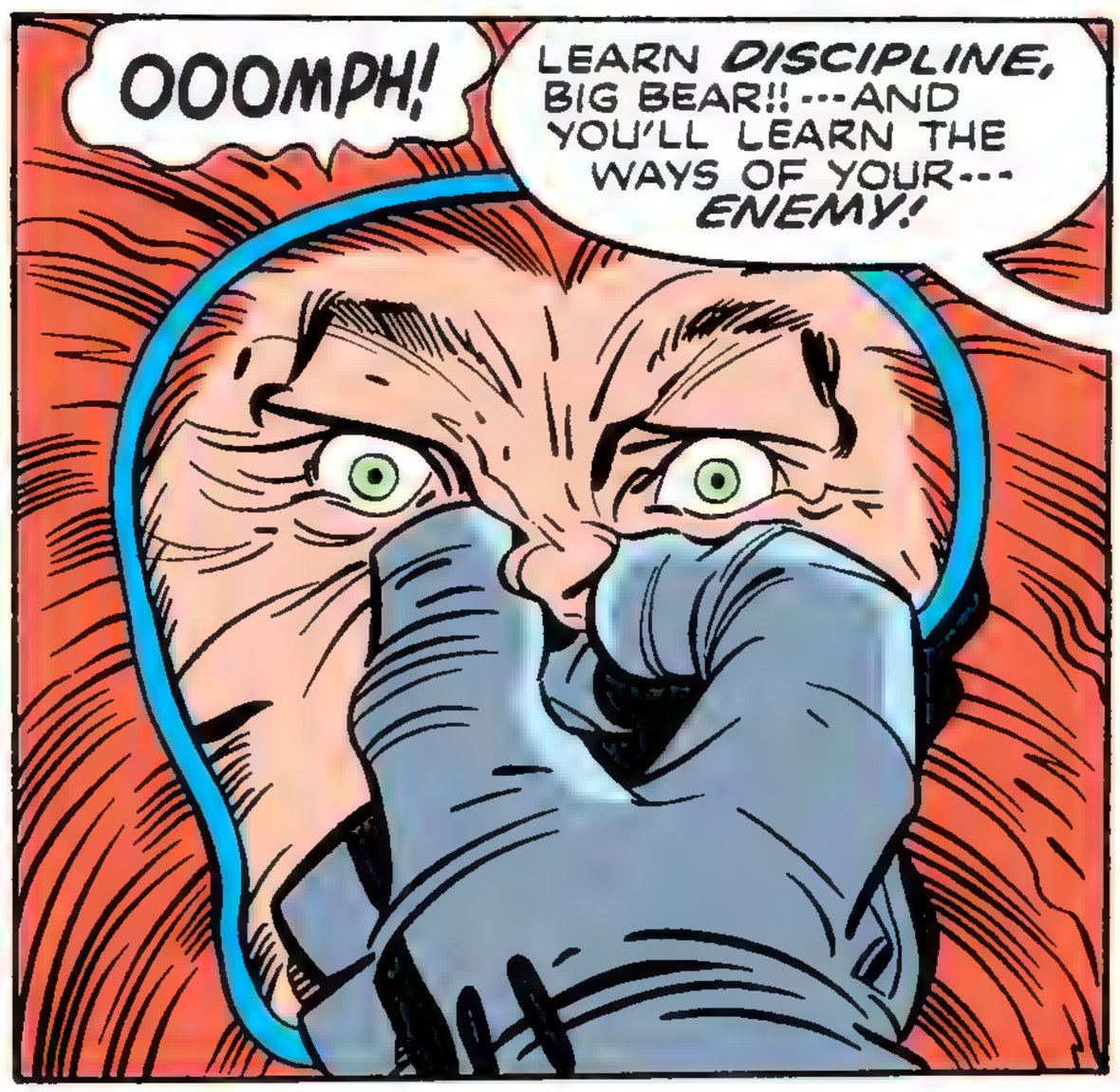
IT'S BETTER THAT THE EQUATION HAS BEEN LOST WITH BATES---THAN WON TO YOU!
SILENCE! THIS NIGHT'S CHARADE IS OVER!!
BATES WOULD HAVE FUMBLED IT! YOU'D HAVE USED IT TOO WELL!

SNATCHING THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION FROM ITS BEARER WAS A DANGEROUS AND DELICATE OPERATION AT BEST!!
WE WON'T STOP FIGHTING UNTIL THERE'S AN END TO YOUR WAR!!
AND WHEN YOU TRY IT AGAIN, WE SHALL BE THERE!
---AND AN END TO YOU!!

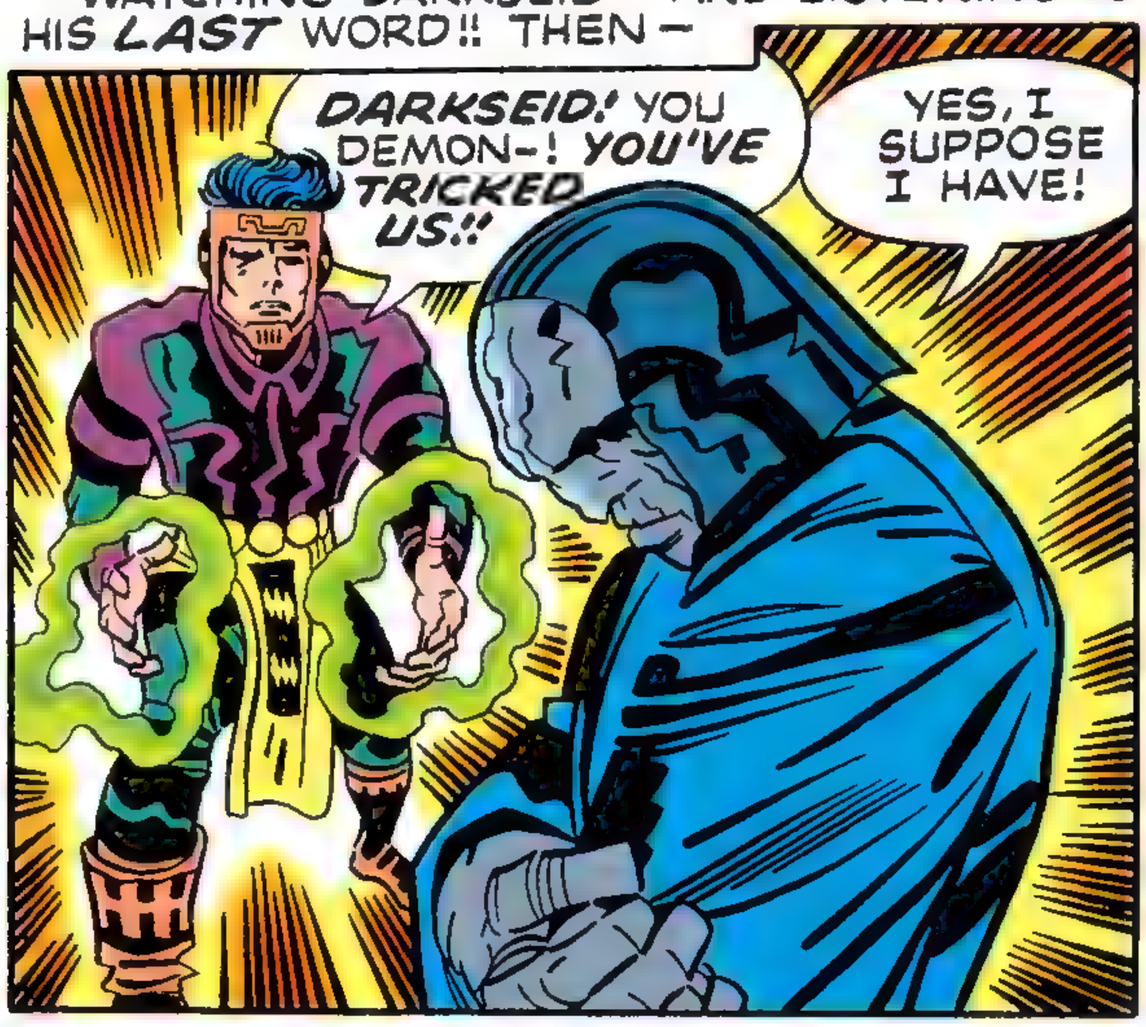
I SAID "BE SILENT!"
ARE YOU WARRIORS OF NEW GENESIS--- ---OR SOME PRATTLING, GAGGLE OF HALF-GROWN FOWL!!?
STRAIGHTEN UP! LOOK LIKE WHAT YOU PRETEND TO BE !!!

THANK YOU---THAT'S BETTER! WAR MAY BE HELL!---BUT ONLY WHEN FOUGHT BY A SLOPPY MILITARY!
W-WE'RE N-NOT YOUR ROBOTS---
23

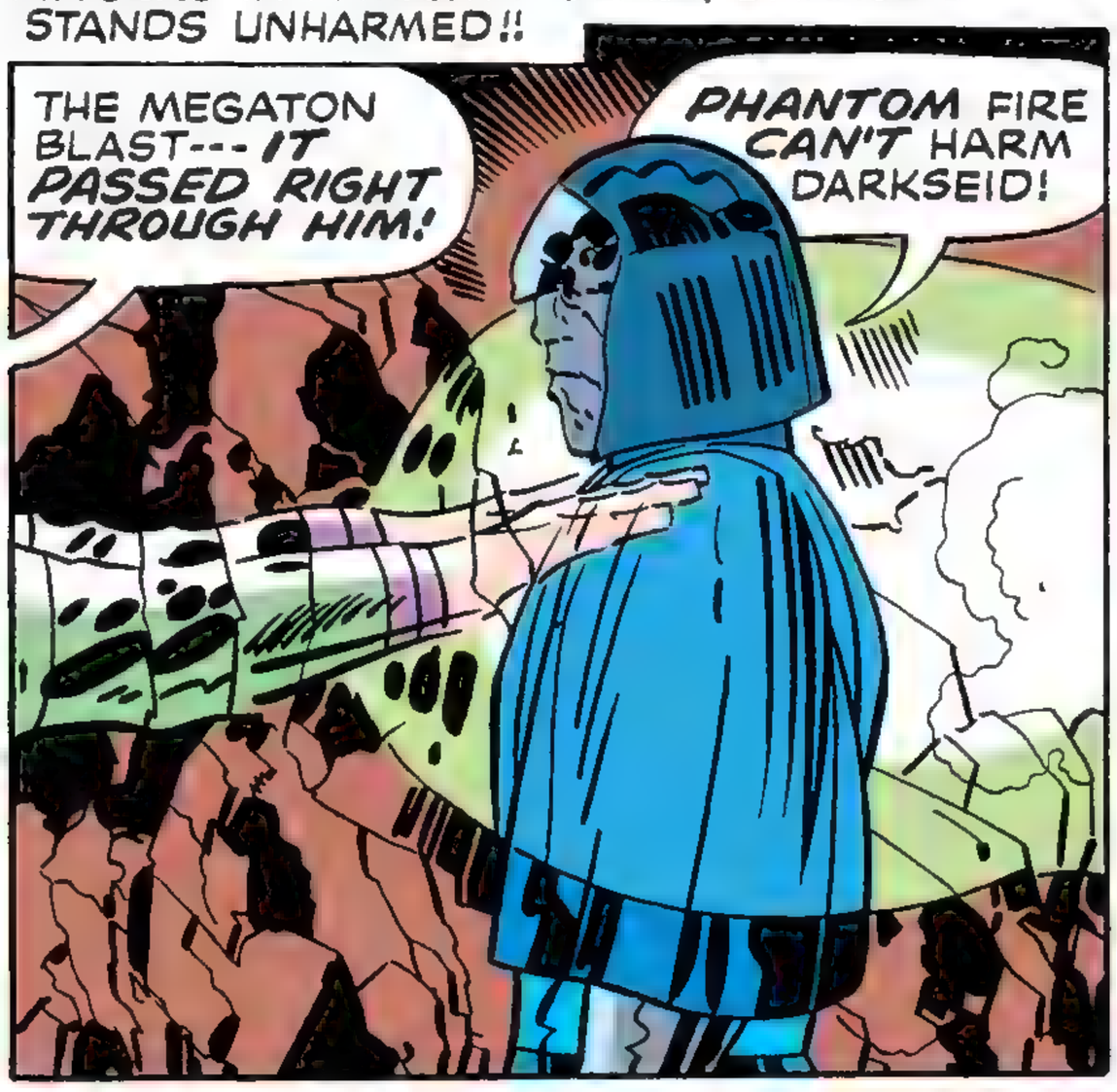


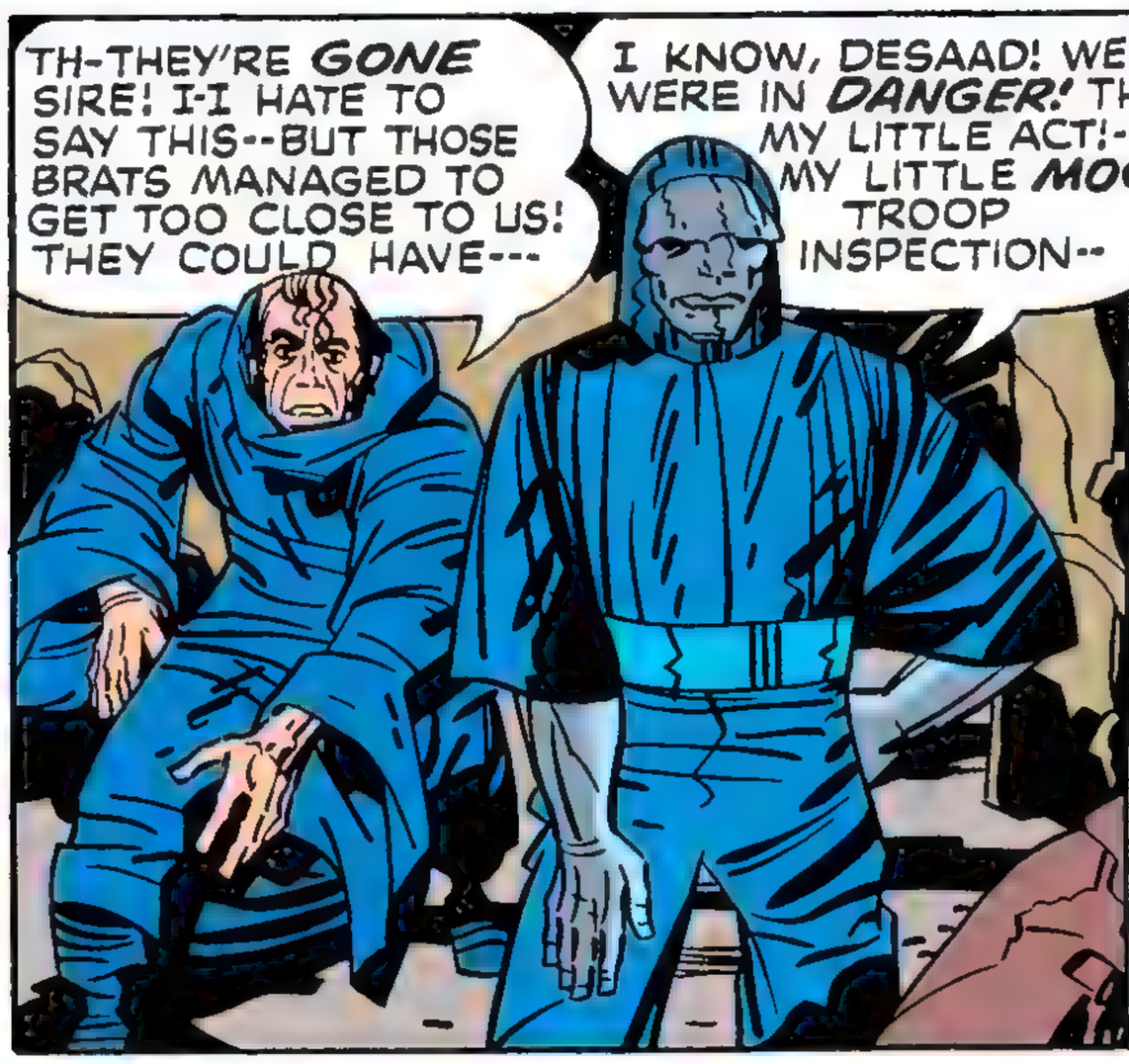


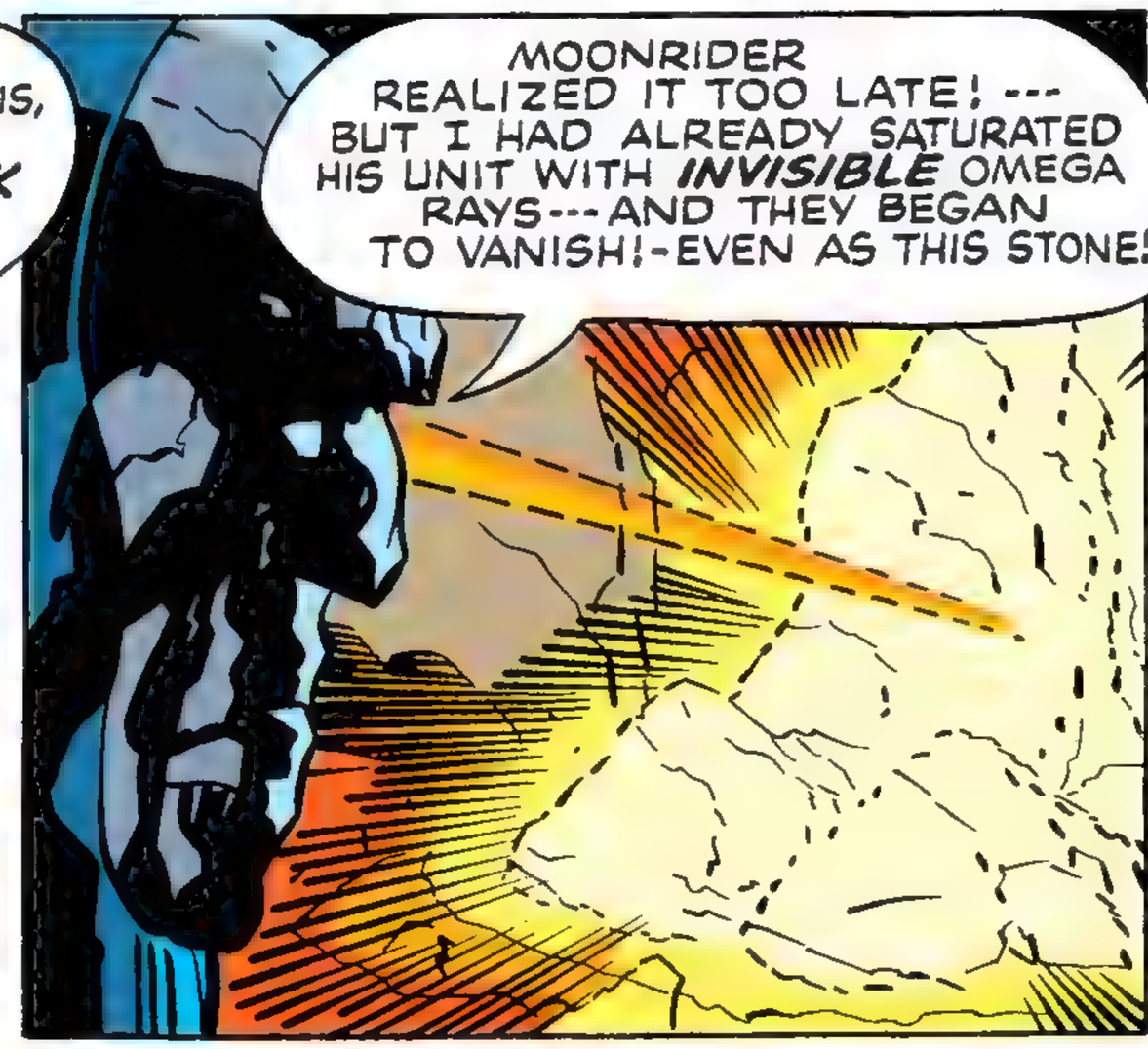
MOONRIDER HAS BEEN WATCHING SILENTLY! ---WATCHING DARKSEID---AND LISTENING TO HIS LAST WORD!! THEN—



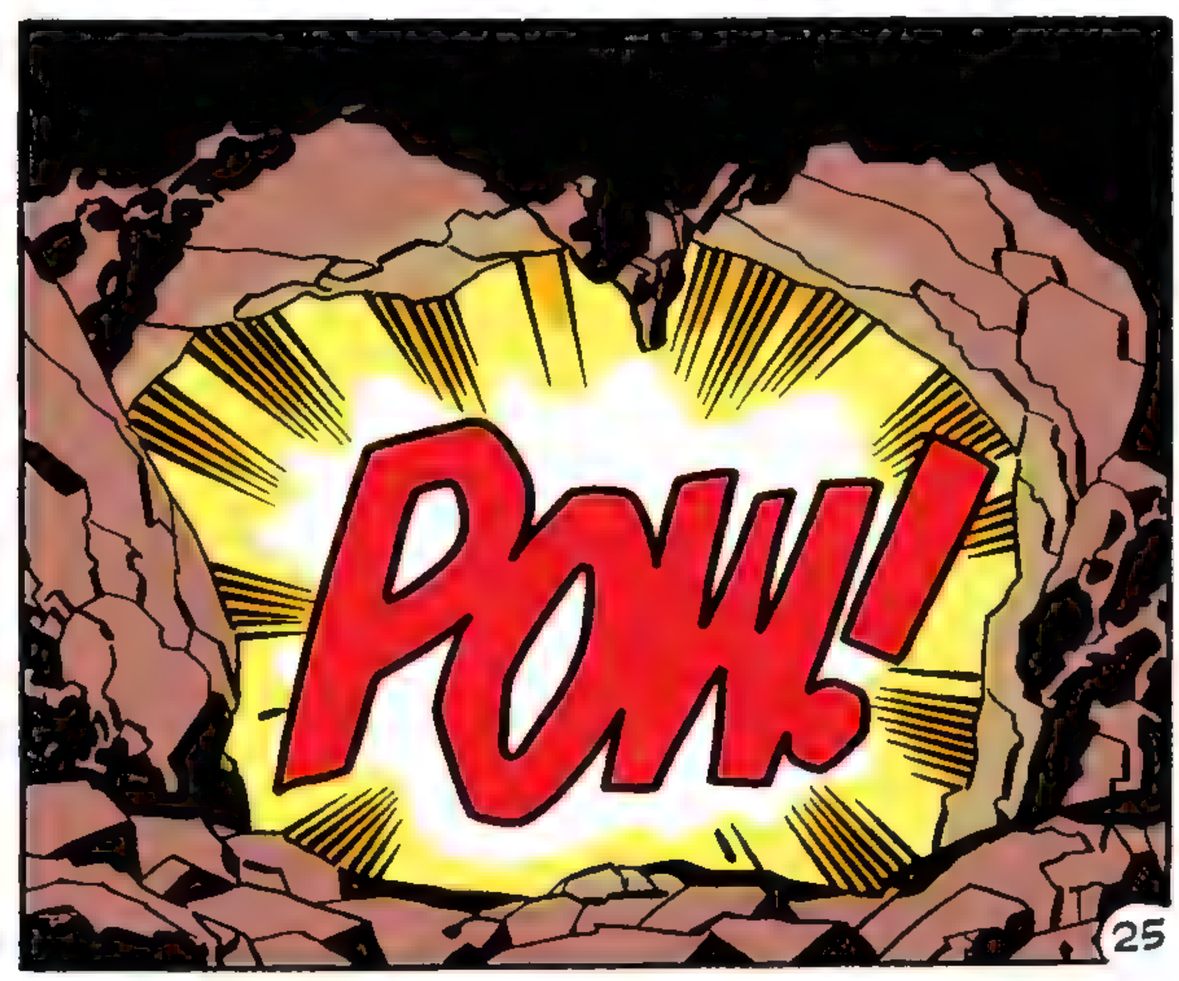
EVEN AS FISSION ROARS FROM MARK'S FINGERS IN A MIGHTY BLAST, DARKSEID STANDS UNHARMED!!



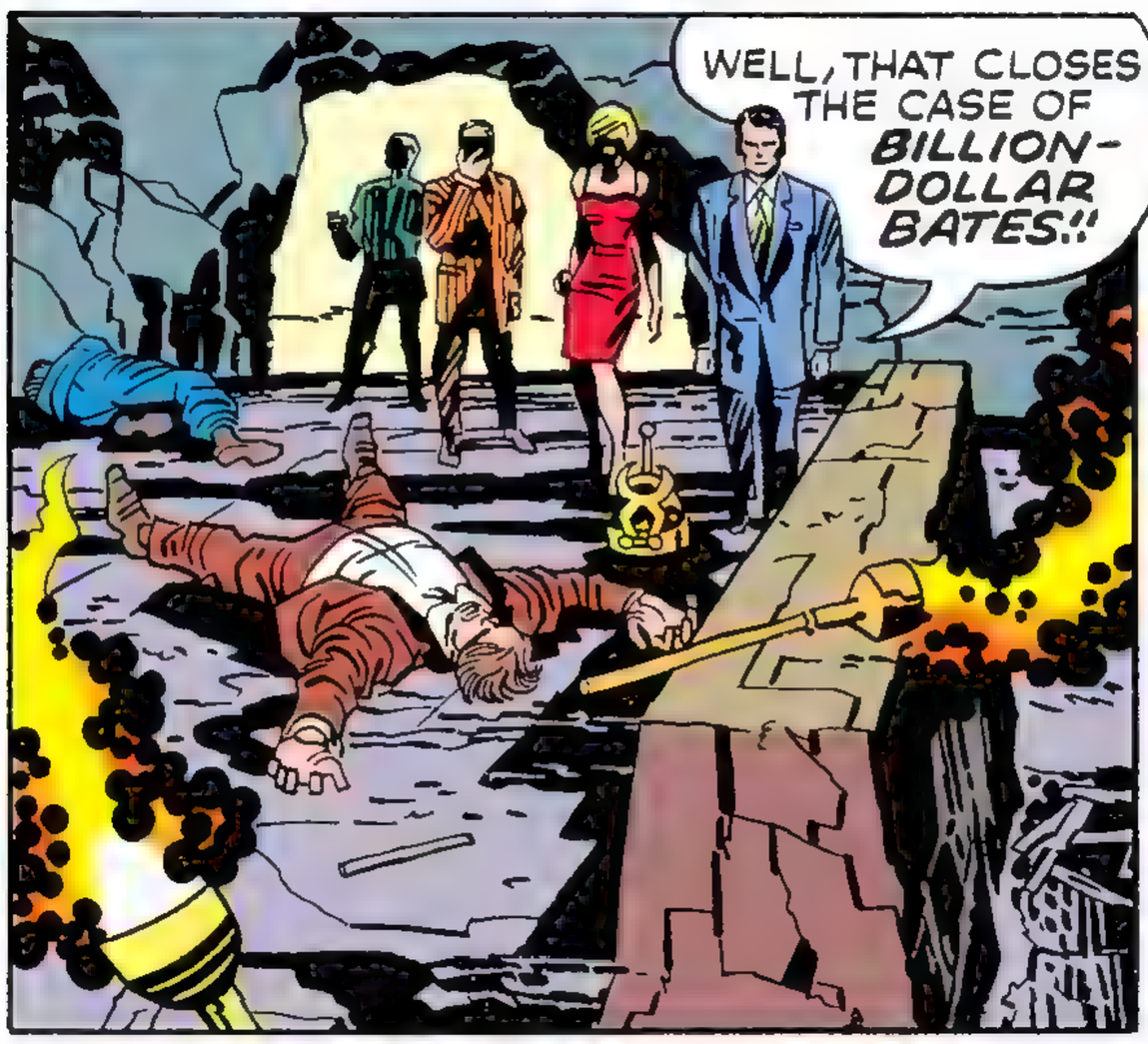


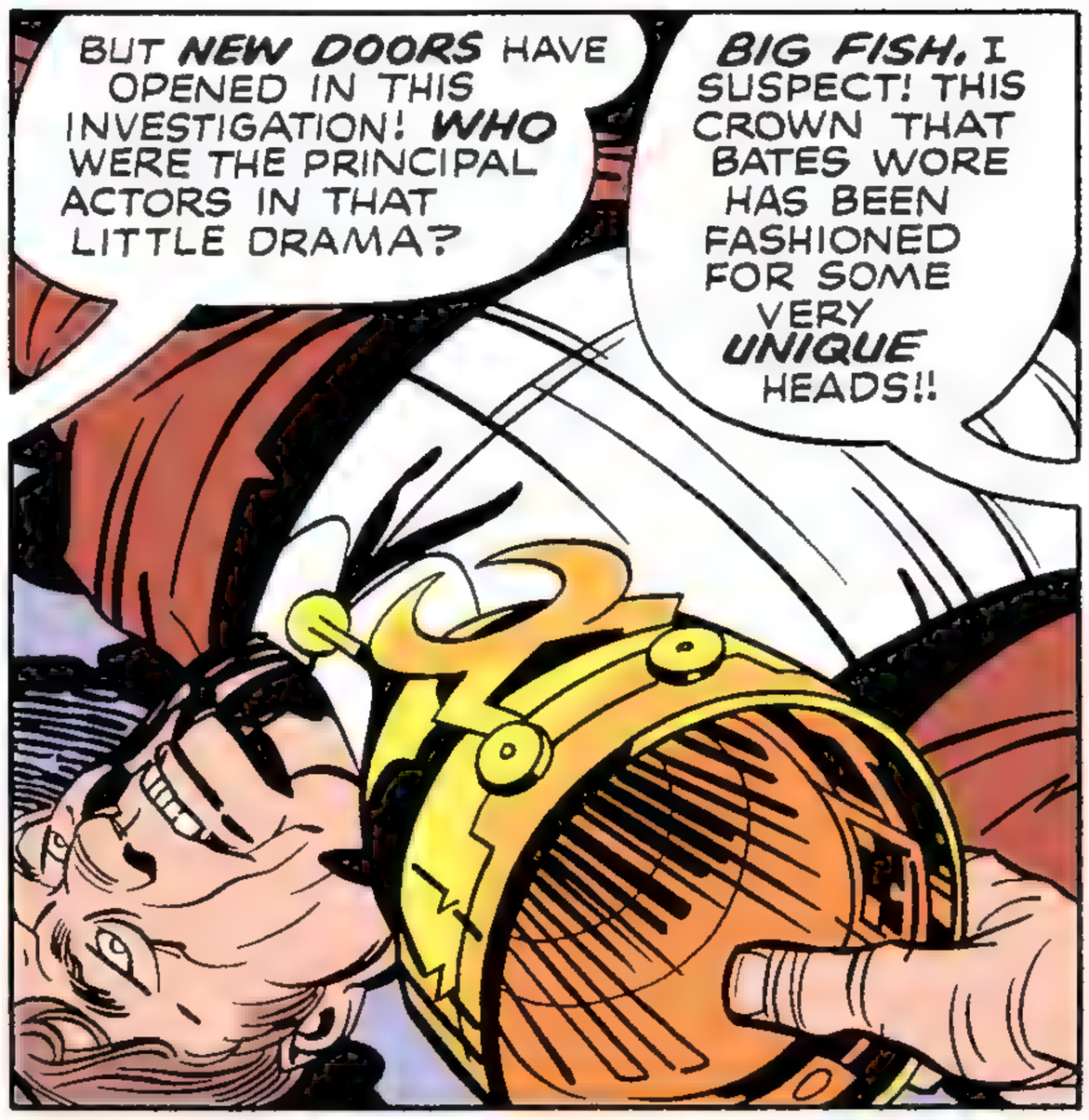


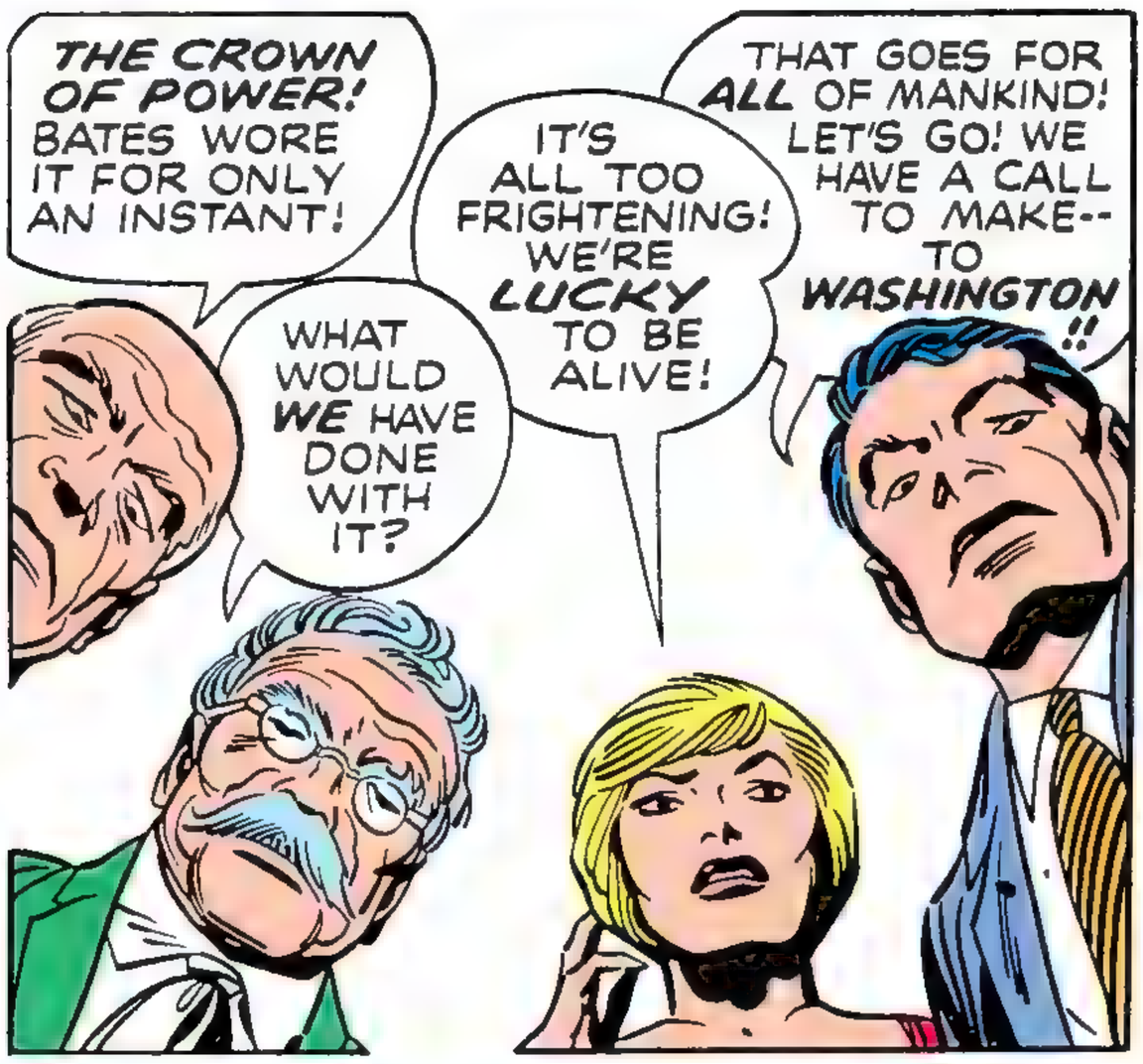
THERE IS A GREAT SURGE OF POWER FROM WITHIN DARKSEID! THE SOMBER CAVES ROCK FROM ITS BURSTING ECHOES! THEN, DARKSEID AND HIS MINIONS ARE GONE!



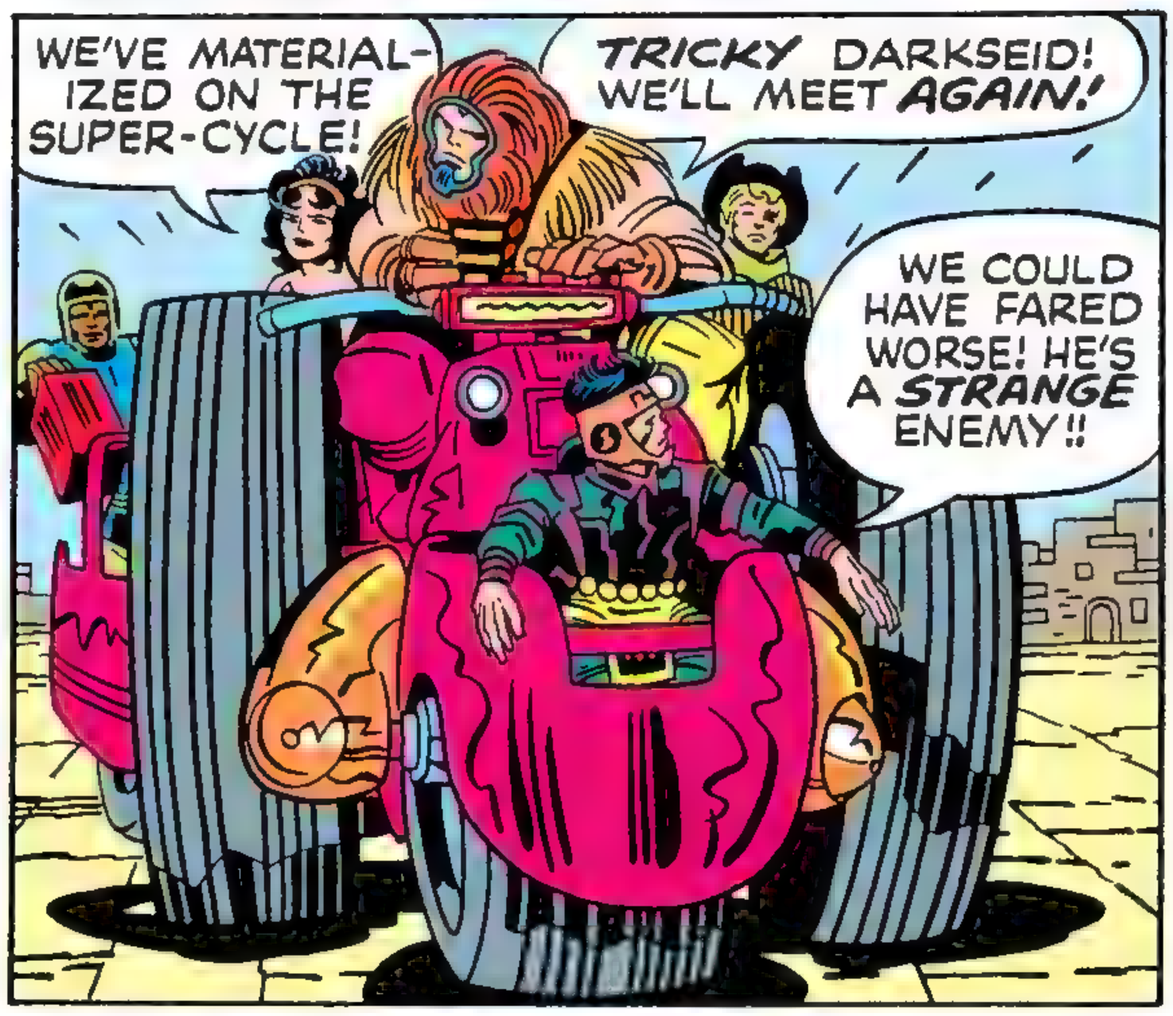
AND ALWAYS, WHEN THE THUNDER DIES--- THE WAKE OF THE GODS IS STREWN WITH THE DEBRIS OF CELESTIAL SCHEMING!!

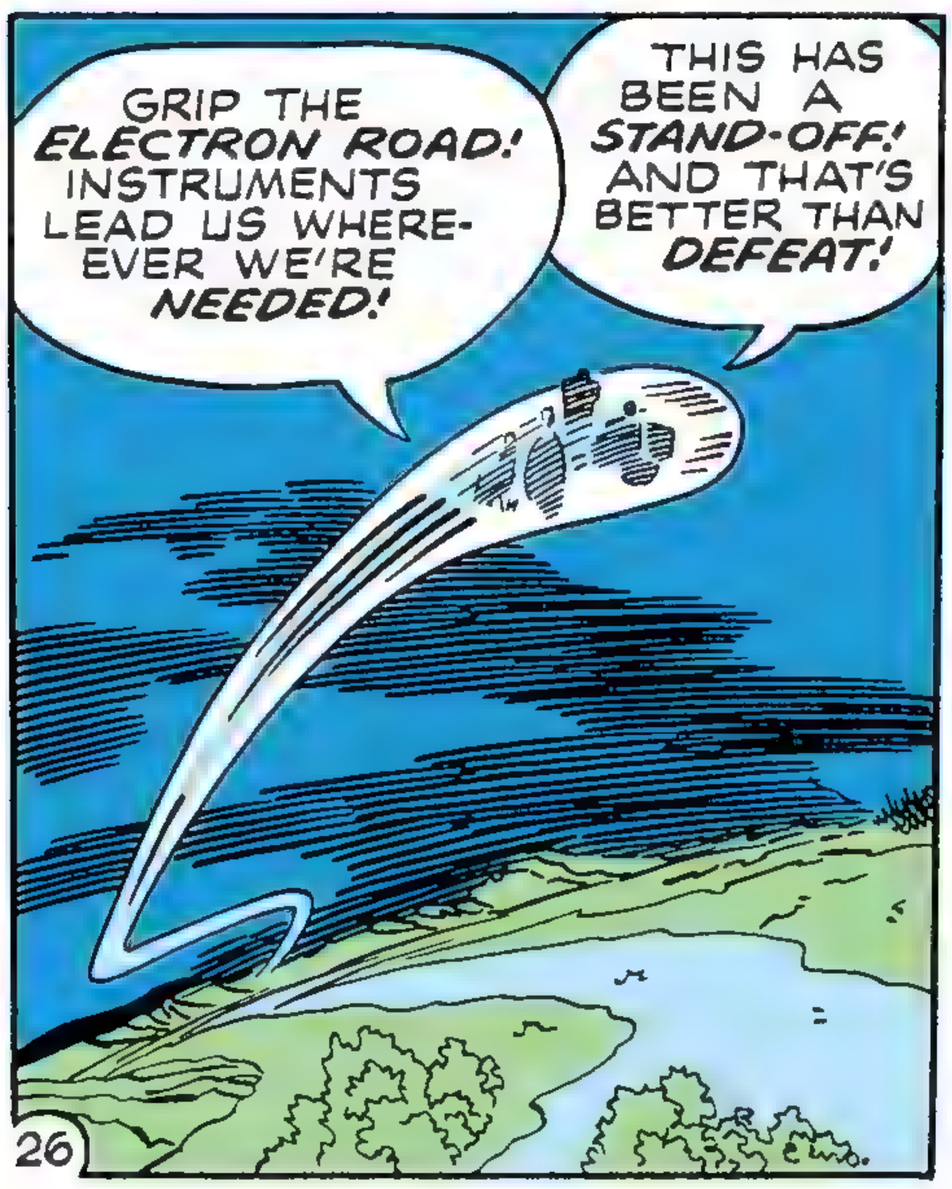






MEANWHILE, BEYOND THE ESTATES---





WHERE SUPER-CYCLE GOES---NOBODY KNOWS!!---THAT IS---NOT UNTIL IT LANDS!!

BUT IT'S BOUND TO BE A PLACE WHERE EERIE AND UNUSUAL THINGS ARE HAPPENING!!

THAT'S WHY THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE FOREVER PEOPLE IS A BLOCKBUSTER!!

• DON'T MISS •

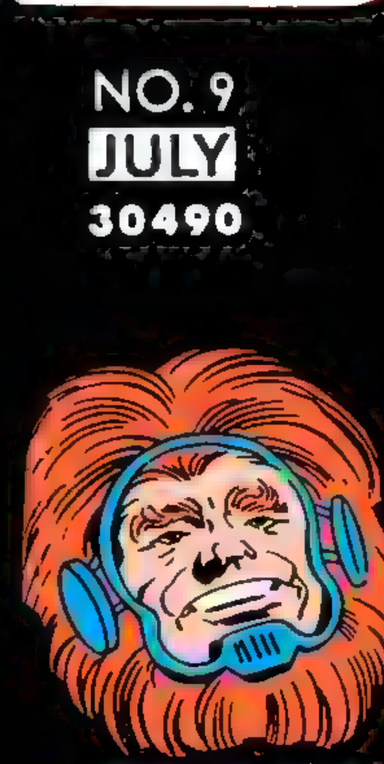
THE MONSTER IN THE MORGUE!

SEE THE EERIE RETURN OF DEADMAN!! in

THE FOREVER PEOPLE

52 BIG pages DON'T TAKE LESS!

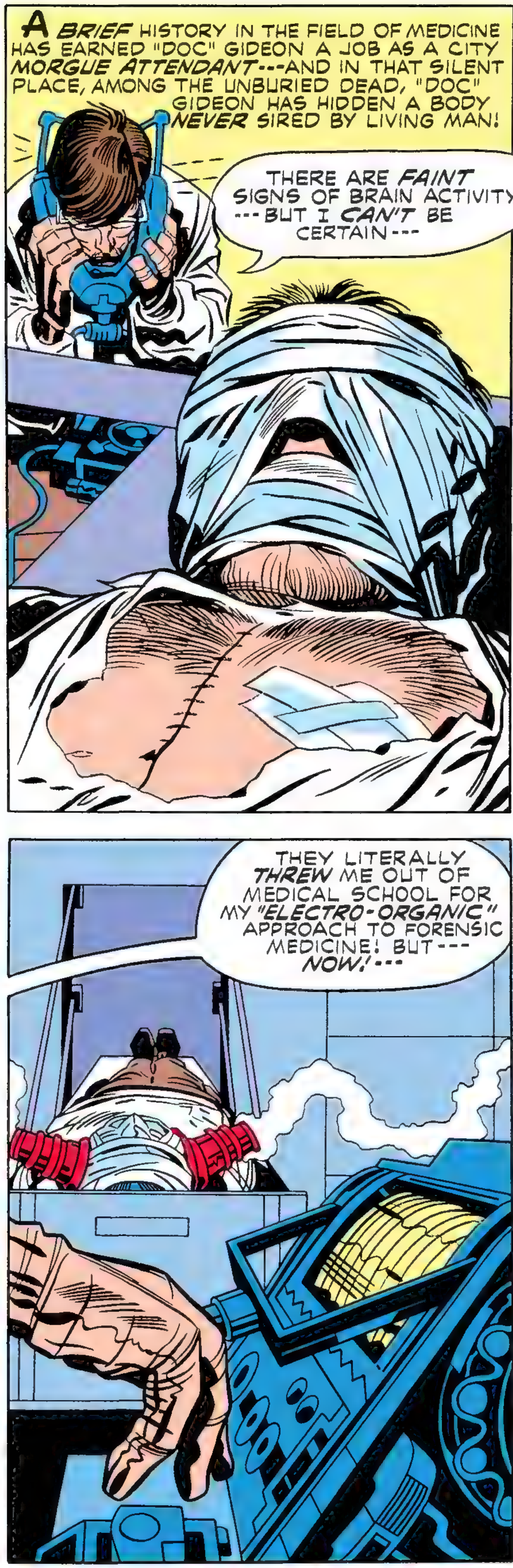
NO. 9
JULY
30490



EXTRA! THE SANDMAN BATTLES "THE MAN WHO KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS!"

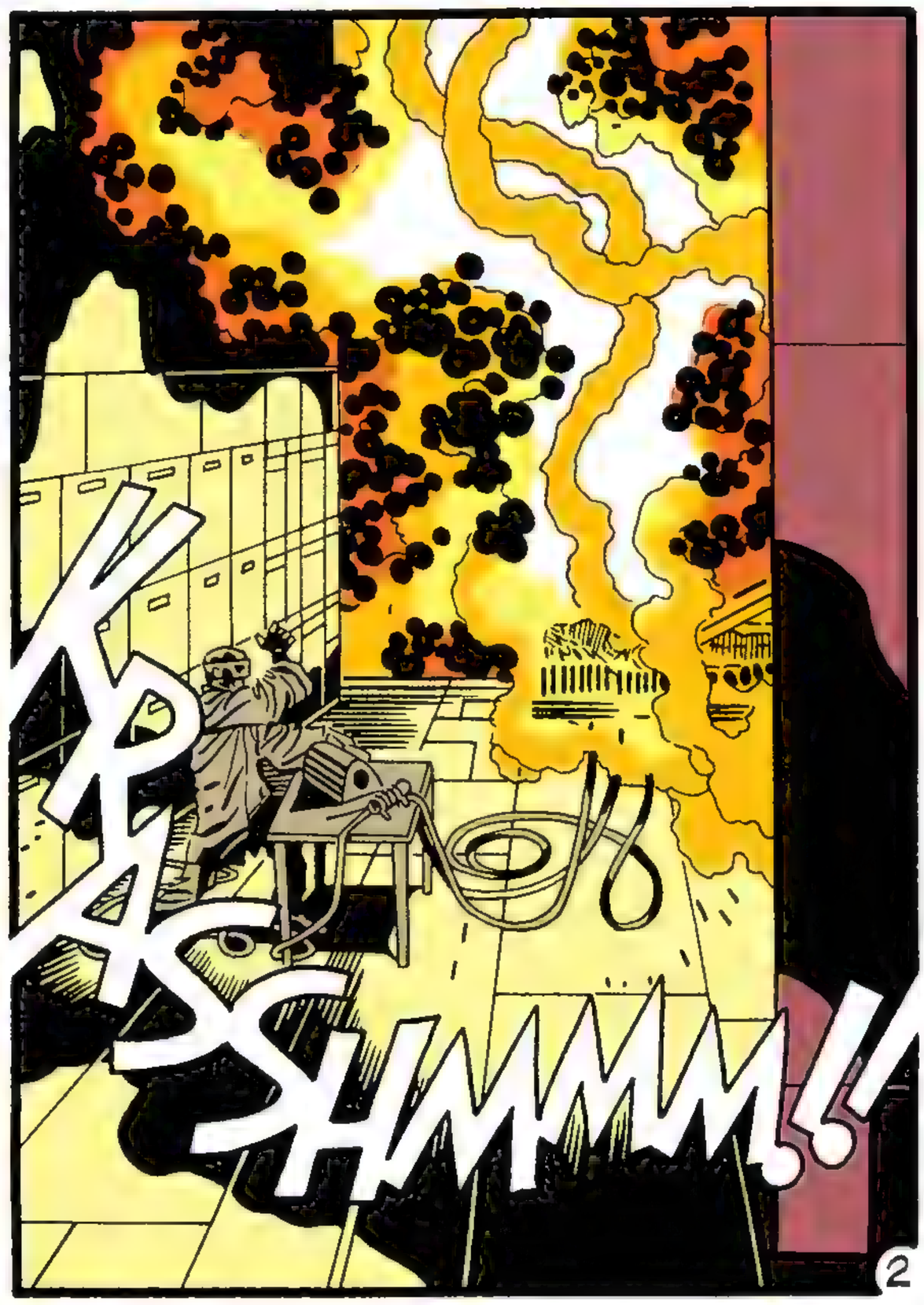
THIS IS THE NIGHT, OLD FRIEND-- WHEN I SHALL GIVE YOU-- LIFE!

LABORING IN NAMELESS PLACES EVERYWHERE ARE THE OBSCURE DREAMERS, THE LONE WOLVES WHO TAKE THE SIMPLISTIC ROAD TO FULFILLMENT! SOME SUCCEED AND GO DOWN IN HISTORY---OTHERS GENERATE NIGHTMARES THAT ALMOST DROWN HISTORY! IN EVERY AGE THEY'VE MADE MANKIND TREMBLE IN THE DARK! NOW MEET "DOC" GIDEON, WHO PRODUCES MORE THAN HE BARGAINED FOR, WITH HIS---
MONSTER IN THE MORGUE!
KREEEK!
THIS IS THE NIGHT, OLD FRIEND, ---ON WHICH I SHALL GIVE YOU---LIFE!


A BRIEF HISTORY IN THE FIELD OF MEDICINE HAS EARNED "DOC" GIDEON A JOB AS A CITY MORGUE ATTENDANT---AND IN THAT SILENT PLACE, AMONG THE UNBURIED DEAD, "DOC" GIDEON HAS HIDDEN A BODY NEVER SIRED BY LIVING MAN!
THERE ARE FAINT SIGNS OF BRAIN ACTIVITY! ---BUT I CAN'T BE CERTAIN---

WELL, I'VE FINALLY SCRAPED UP THE EQUIPMENT TO ACHIEVE REAL RESULTS! THE ERA OF "FICTION FRANKENSTEINS" IS LONG GONE! WE'VE GOT THE TOOLS TO DO THE JOB, NOW!
BUT THE WORLD MUST BE SHOWN!---BY MEN OF PATIENCE! -TALENT!!

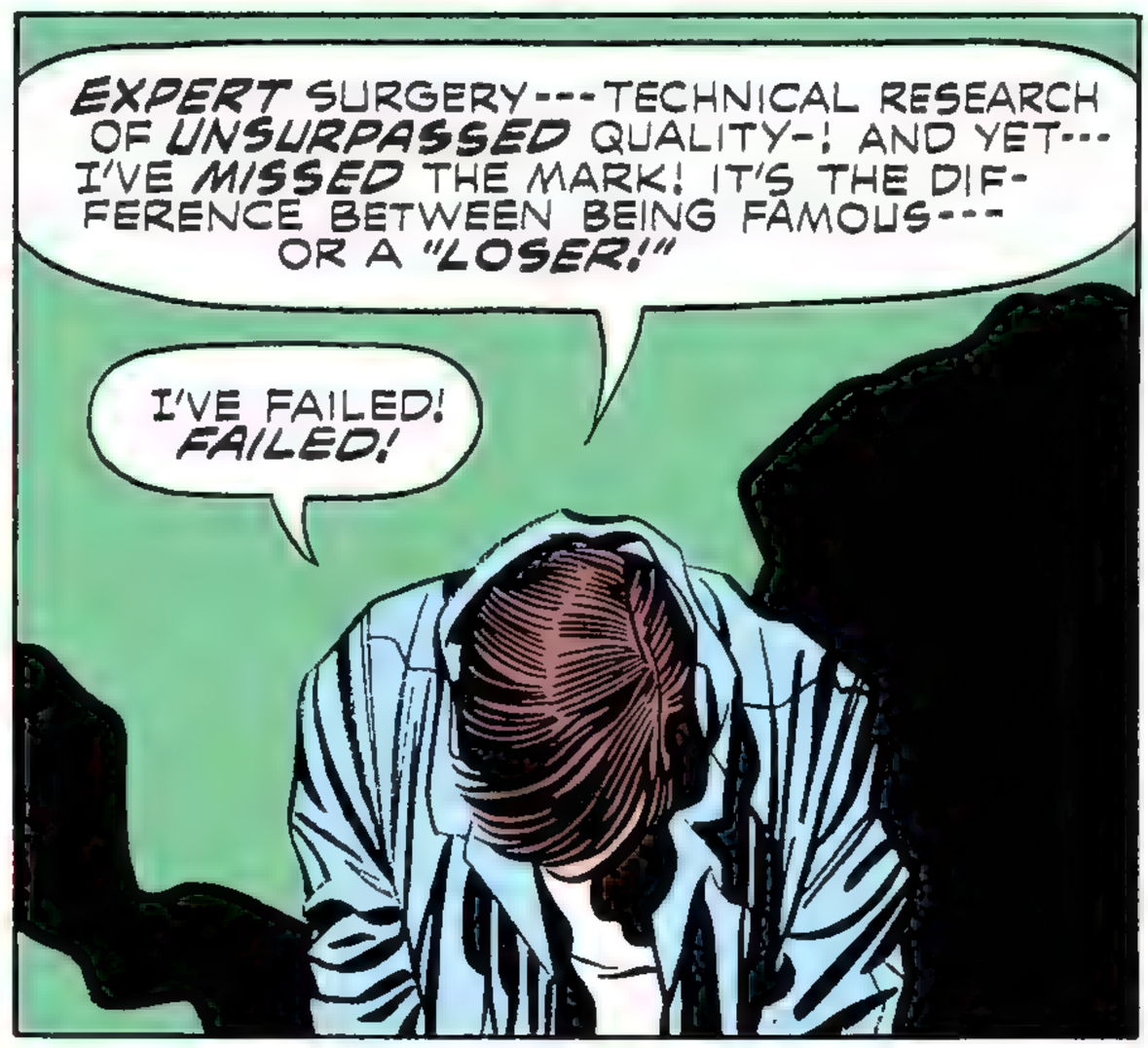
THEY LITERALLY THREW ME OUT OF MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR MY "ELECTRO-ORGANIC" APPROACH TO FORENSIC MEDICINE! BUT--- NOW!---

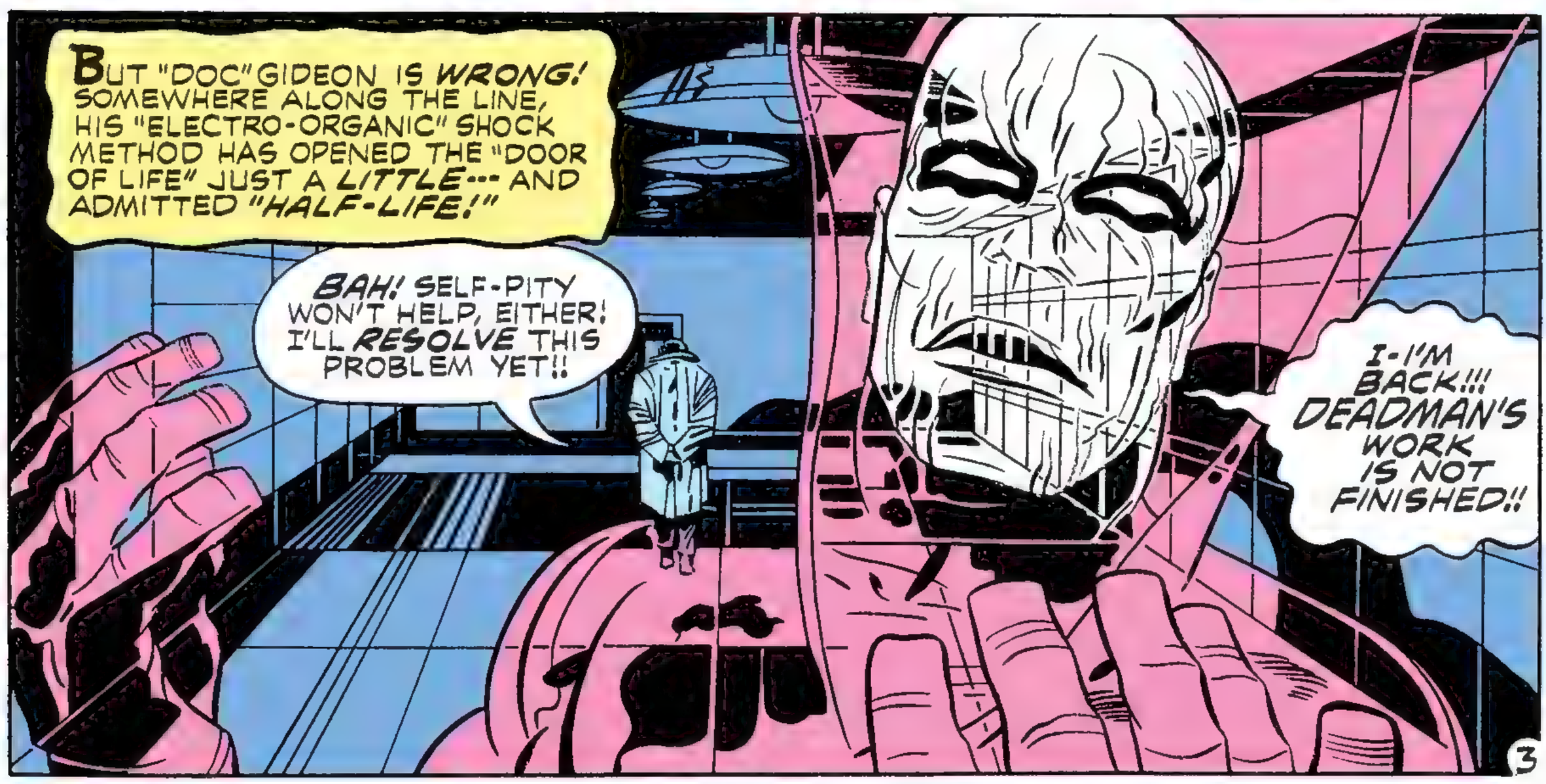

KRASSHMMM!!
2

MICRO-CHARGES---AN AMMUNITION BAND OF ELECTRIC BULLETS, FIRED THROUGH EVERY CELL OF A HUMAN BODY!---A HUMAN BODY STRUCTURED FROM THE UNCLAIMED DEAD! CAN I MAKE IT MOVE?

GIVE ME A SIGN OF HEARTBEAT!---REFLEX! ANYTHING! I KNOW I'M RIGHT! I KNOW IT-!

NOTHING! THERE'S NO RESPONSE FROM ANY AREA OF THIS MASS OF TISSUE! IT JUST ISN'T POSSIBLE THAT I'VE OVERLOOKED A STEP-!


EXPERT SURGERY---TECHNICAL RESEARCH OF UNSURPASSED QUALITY-! AND YET--- I'VE MISSED THE MARK! IT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING FAMOUS--- OR A "LOSER!"
I'VE FAILED! FAILED!


BUT "DOC" GIDEON IS WRONG! SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE, HIS "ELECTRO-ORGANIC" SHOCK METHOD HAS OPENED THE "DOOR OF LIFE" JUST A LITTLE--- AND ADMITTED "HALF-LIFE!"
BAH! SELF-PITY WON'T HELP, EITHER! I'LL RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM YET!!
I-I'M BACK!!! DEADMAN'S WORK IS NOT FINISHED!!
3

AND, *STRANGELY* ENOUGH---THROUGH THE *INTRICATE* MACHINATIONS OF THE FATES---
THIS EVENT BRINGS US TO THE---

FOREVER PEOPLE

WHO ARE SOON TO PURSUE A *MONSTER*---WITH ONE IN PURSUIT OF HIS *MURDERER!!*---

DEADMAN

THEY'VE TAKEN MY LIFE SAVINGS! STOP THEM! STOP THEM!

HEY!

WHAT!! THEY WOULD RISK PUNISHMENT FOR STEALING AN OLD MAGPIE'S NEST EGG?

WHO'S AN OLD MAGPIE, YOU GIANT "HAIR BEAR!" DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY! I WORKED HARD FOR THAT MONEY!

DON'T YOU HAVE MONITORS WE CAN SUMMON?

MONITORS MAY BE TOO LATE, BEAUTIFUL DREAMER! I'LL TRY---

YOU'LL TRY WHAT!?---

CONTROLLED SHOCK FROM MY MEGATON TOUCH!! ---JUST ENOUGH TO STOP THAT WEAPON!

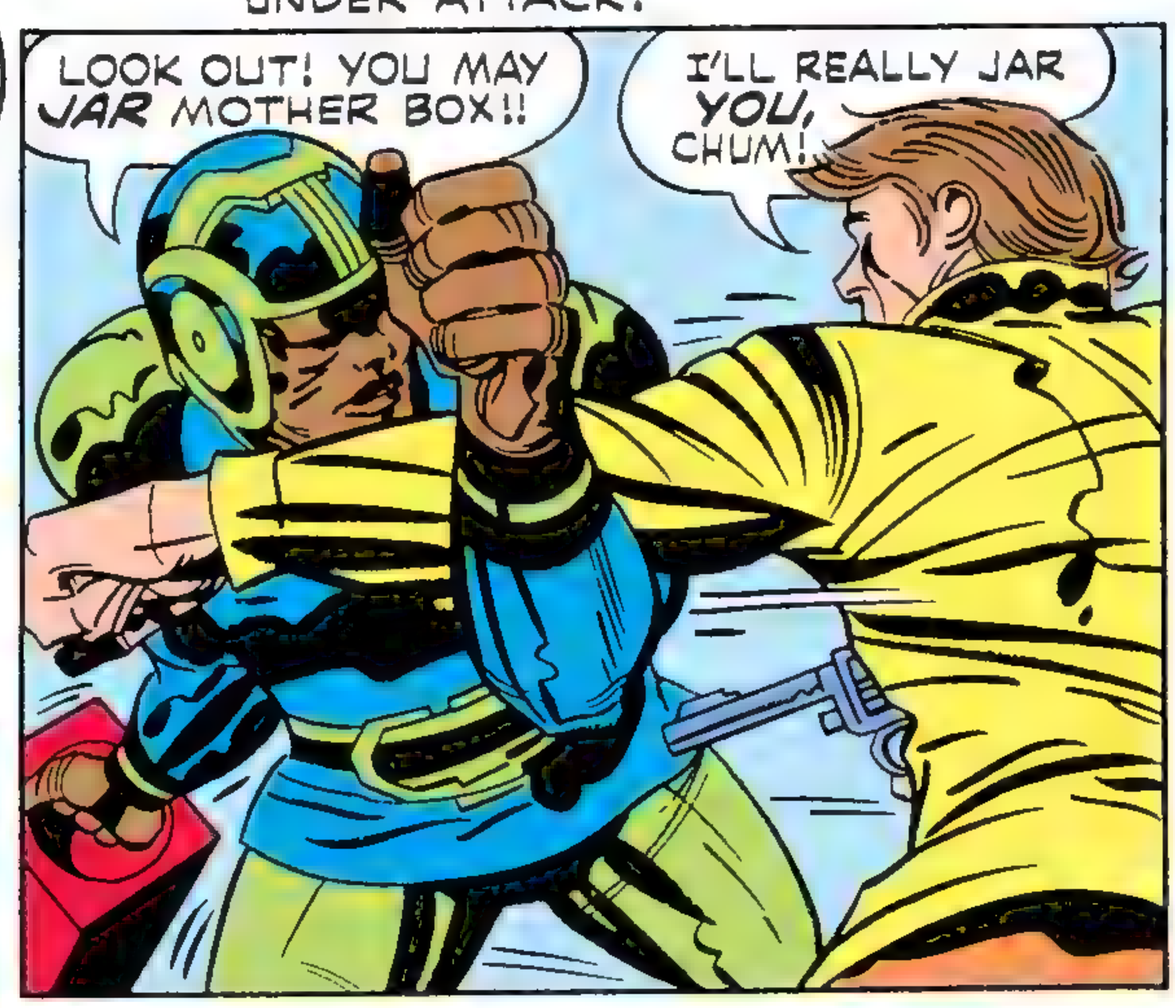
AAAAA!!

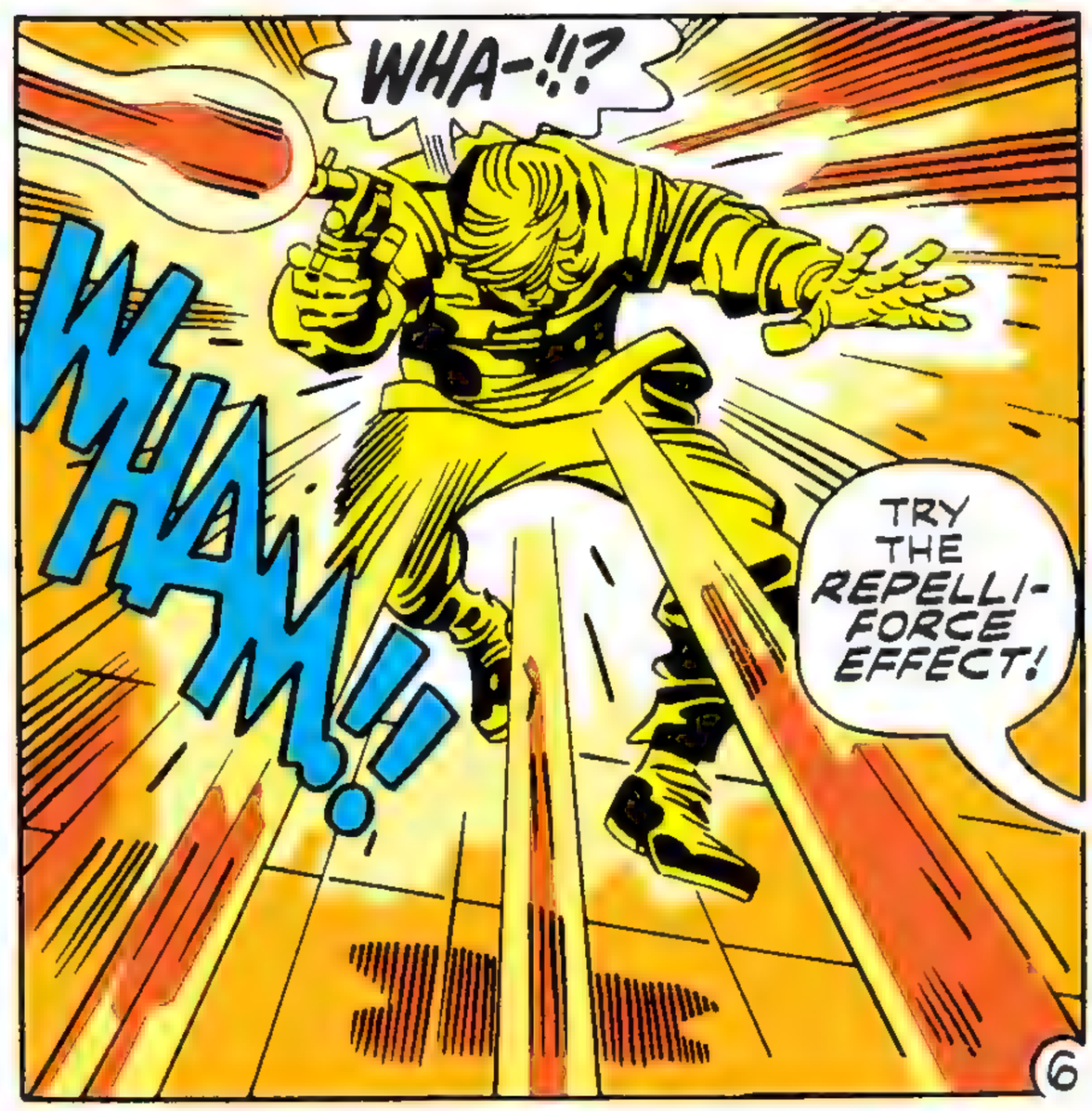
POW!

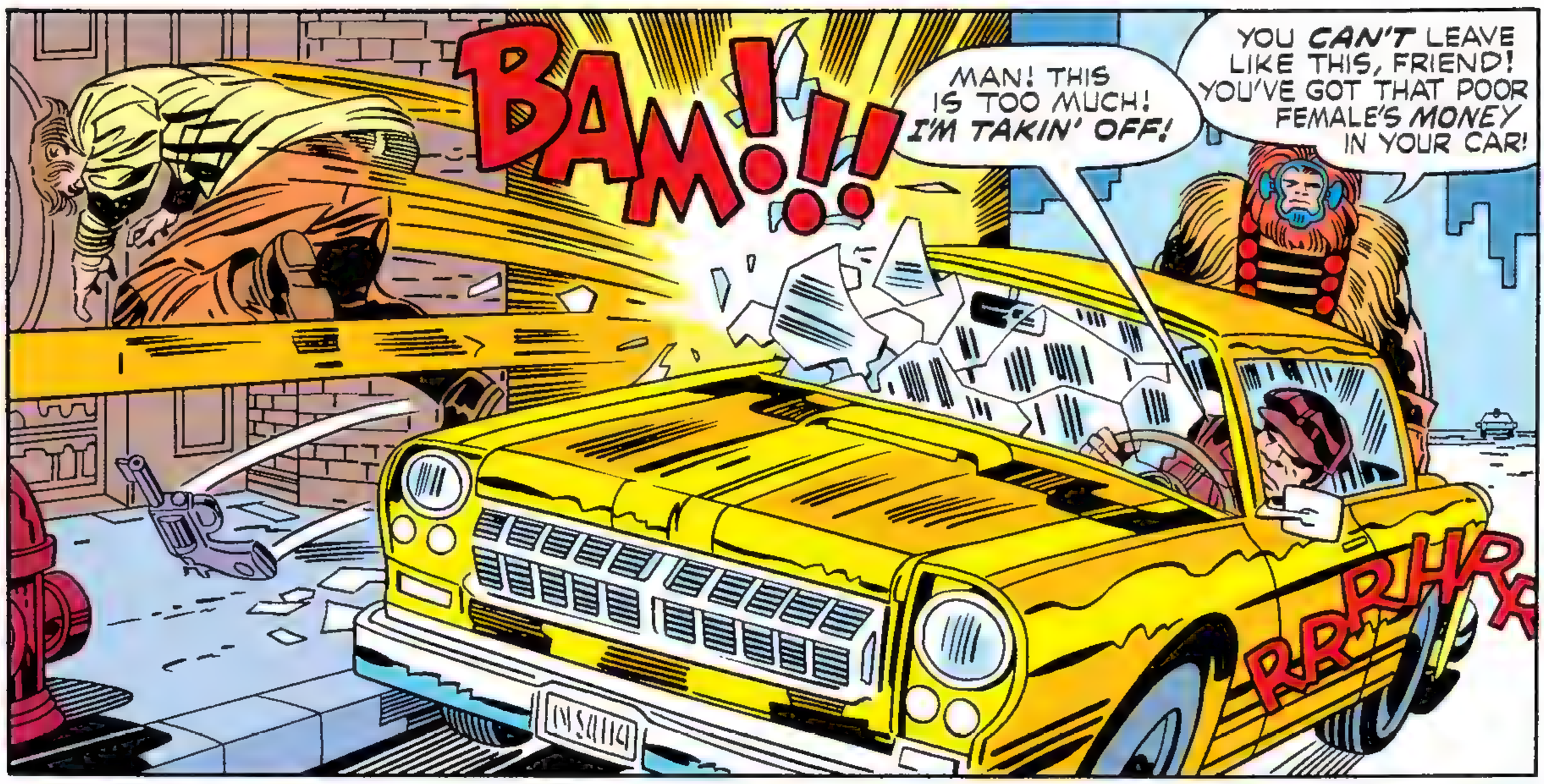
SO---YOU'VE GOT A GLOVE FULL OF GIMMICKS, CLOWN! BUT, I CAN STILL BEAT YOU TO THIS GUN!

DON'T PICK UP THAT WEAPON, FRIEND! I CAN INCREASE MY SHOCK-POWER!

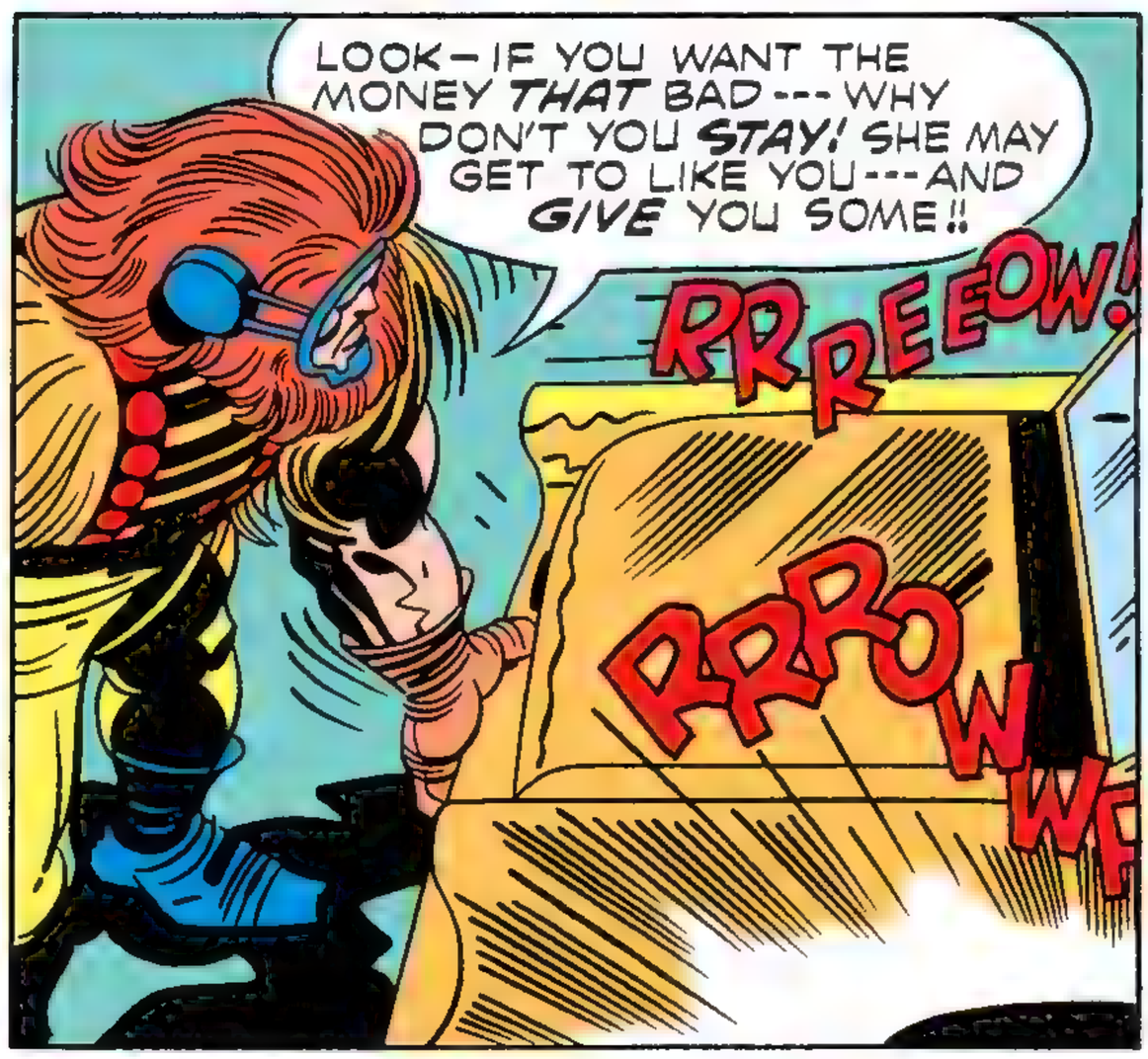
MEANWHILE, VYKIN THE BLACK IS ALSO UNDER ATTACK!

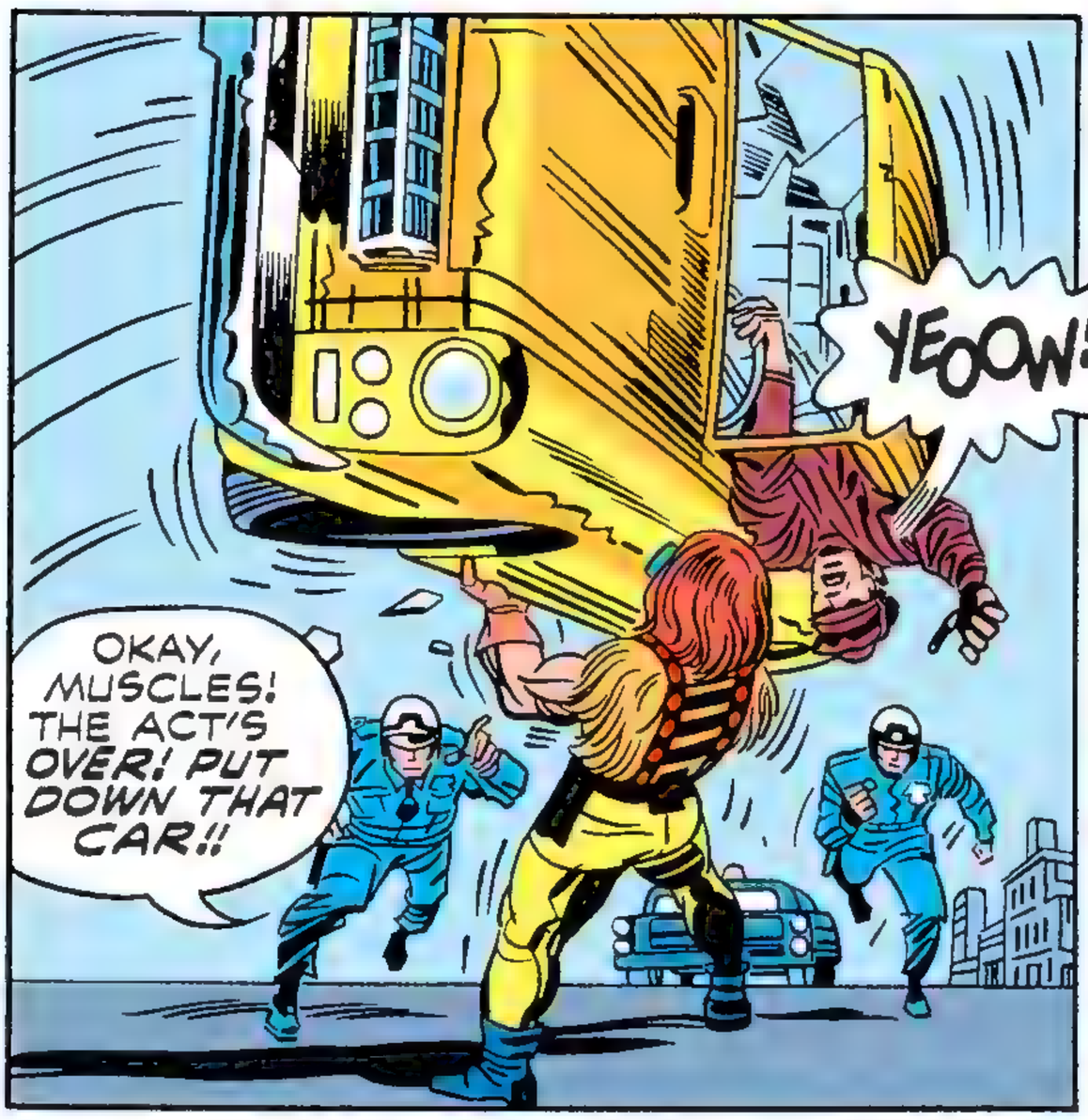


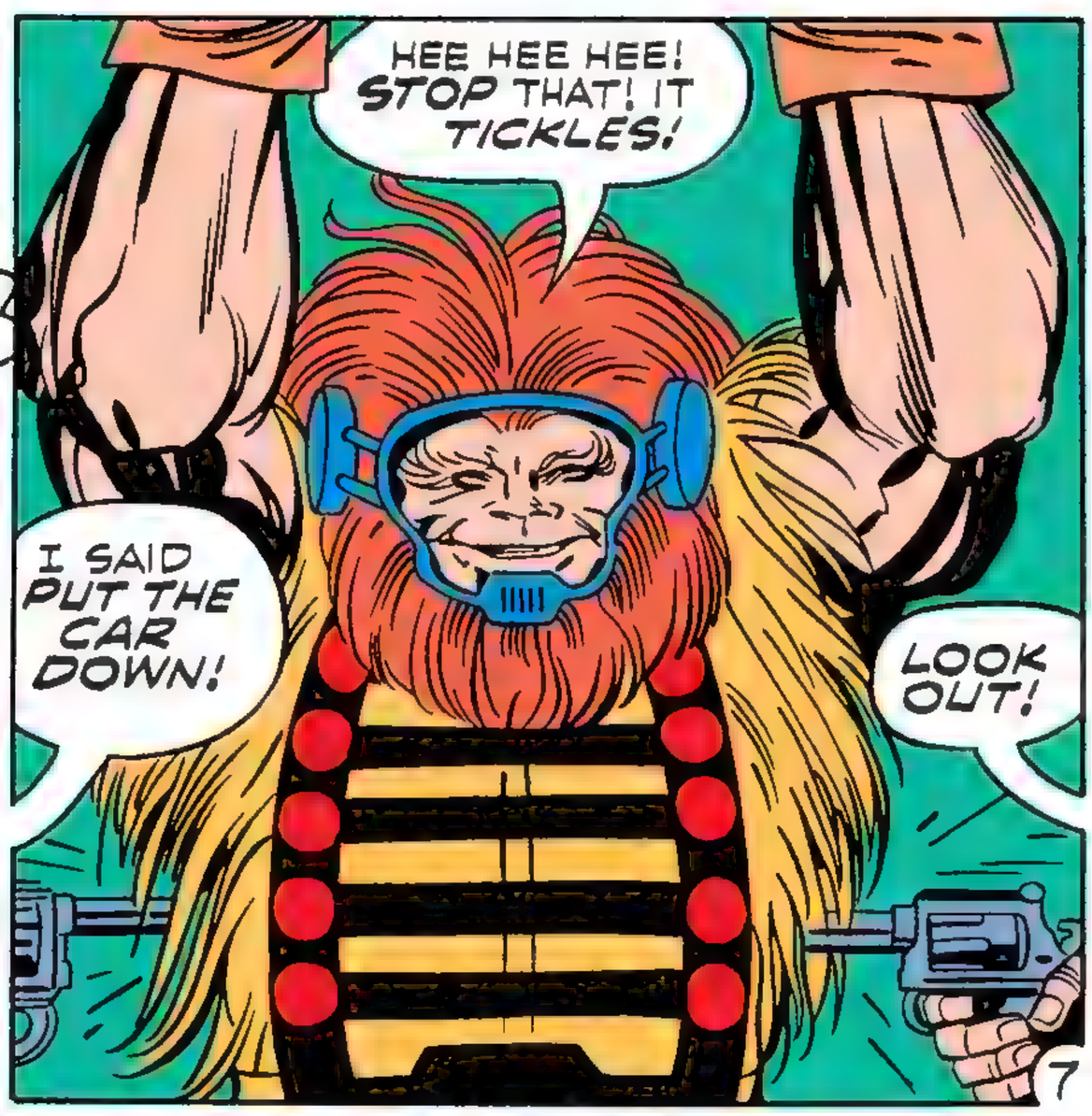


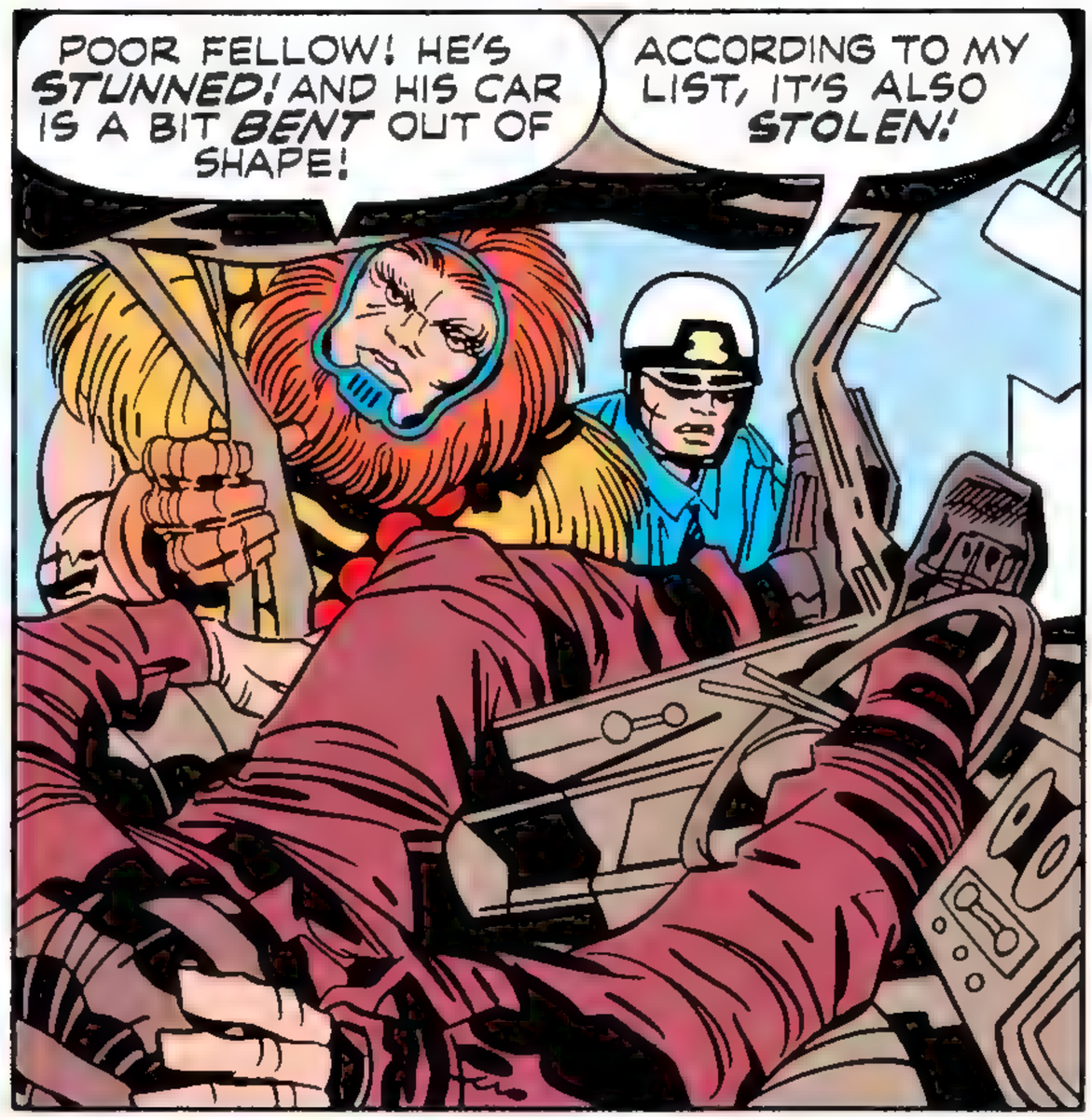

BAM!!!
MAN! THIS IS TOO MUCH! I'M TAKIN' OFF!
YOU CAN'T LEAVE LIKE THIS, FRIEND! YOU'VE GOT THAT POOR FEMALE'S MONEY IN YOUR CAR!
RRRHRR

VROOM!!
WHAT'S WRONG? THE CAR STARTS--- BUT IT WON'T MOVE!!


LOOK—IF YOU WANT THE MONEY THAT BAD--- WHY DON'T YOU STAY! SHE MAY GET TO LIKE YOU---AND GIVE YOU SOME!!
RR REEOW!
RRROWW

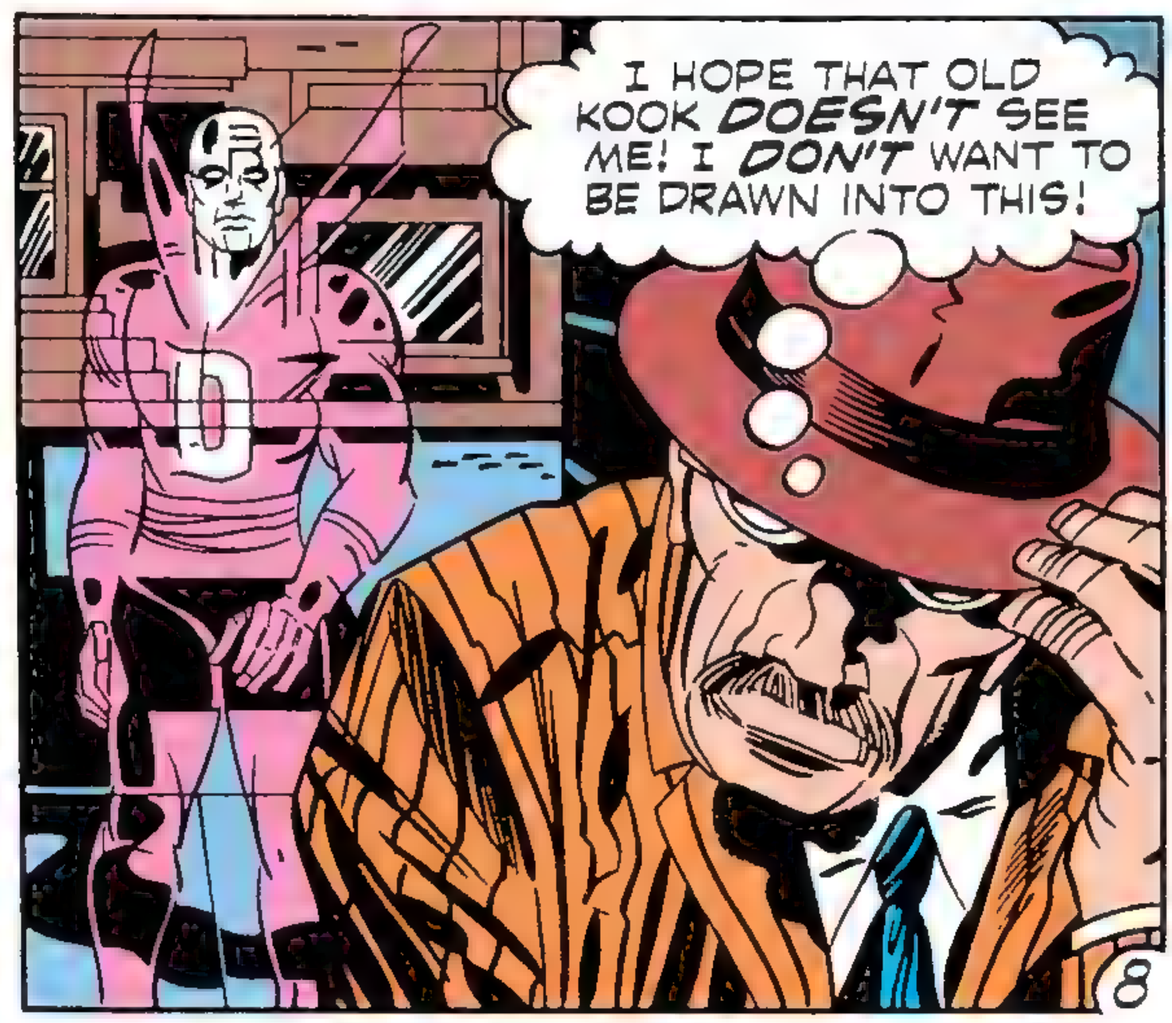

YEOOW!
OKAY, MUSCLES! THE ACT'S OVER! PUT DOWN THAT CAR!!

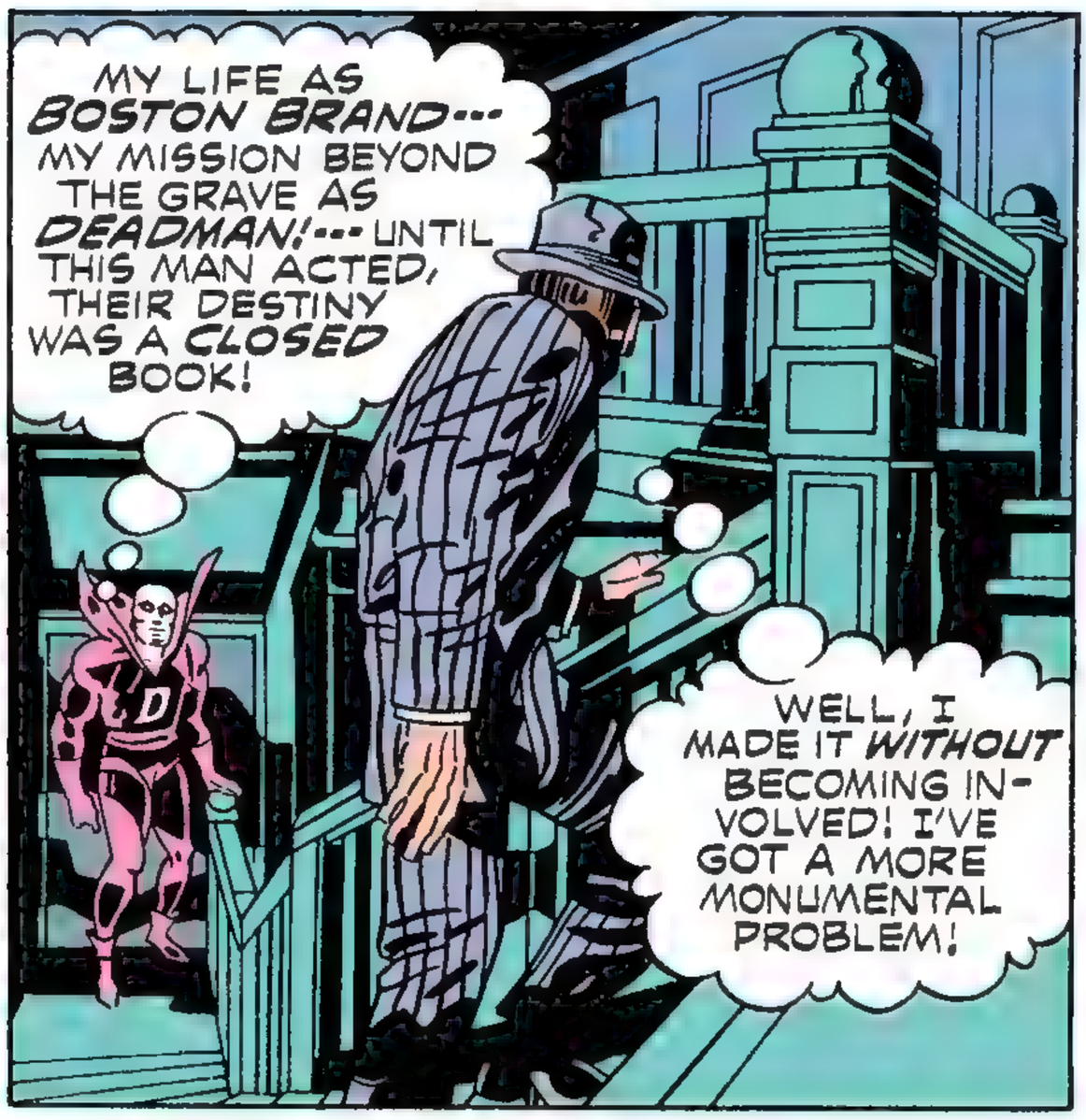

HEE HEE HEE! STOP THAT! IT TICKLES!
I SAID PUT THE CAR DOWN!
LOOK OUT!



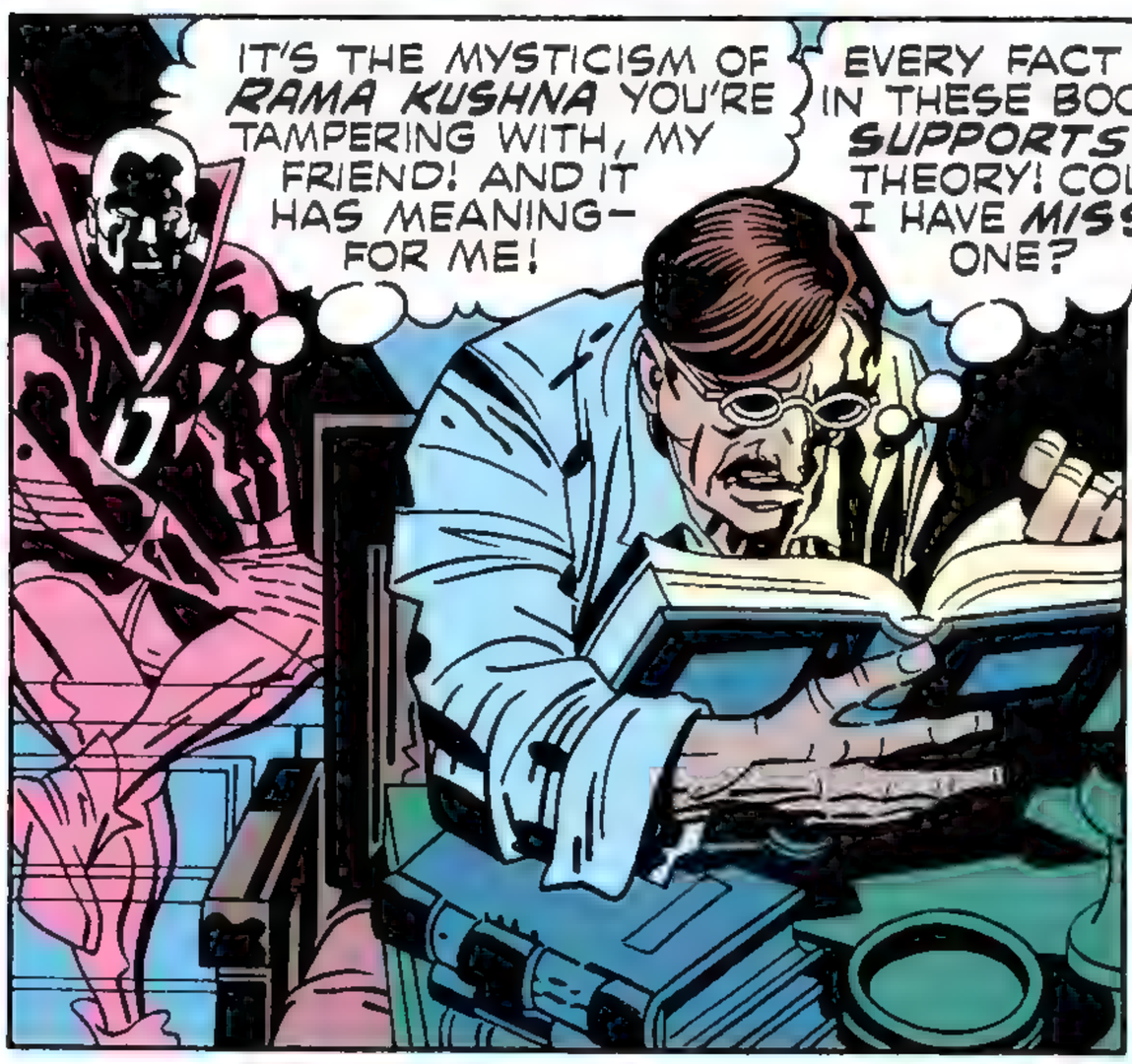
A LATE ARRIVAL ON THE SCENE IS "DOC" GIDEON! UNLIKE THE VARIOUS ONLOOKERS, HIS INTEREST IN THE LITTLE STREET DRAMA IS MORE PERSONAL!!

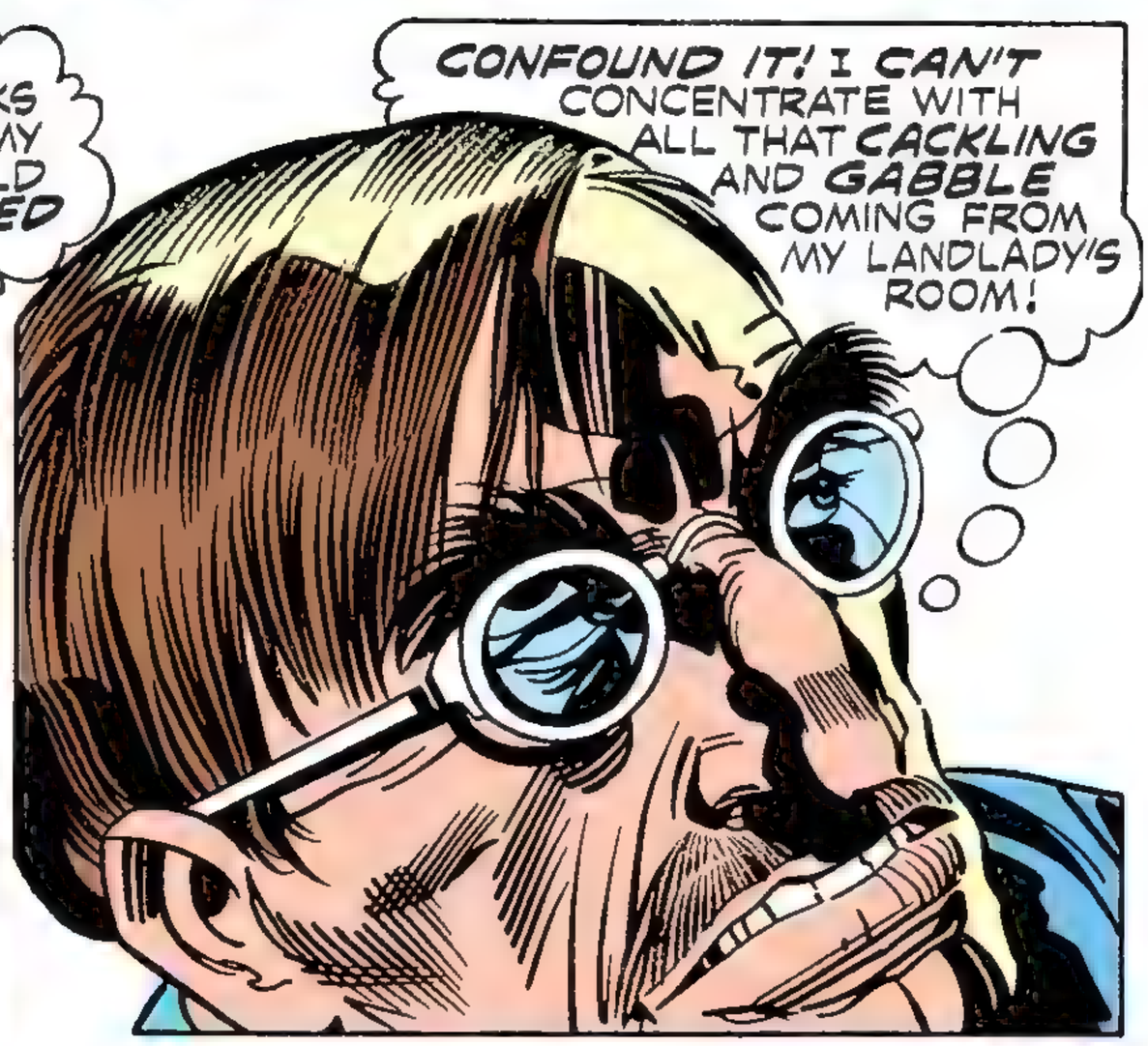
BUT WHAT "DOC" GIDEON HAS CAUSED REMAINS UNSEEN--- BUT IT TRACKS HIM---USING HIM AS A FOCAL POINT FOR ITS FATE!



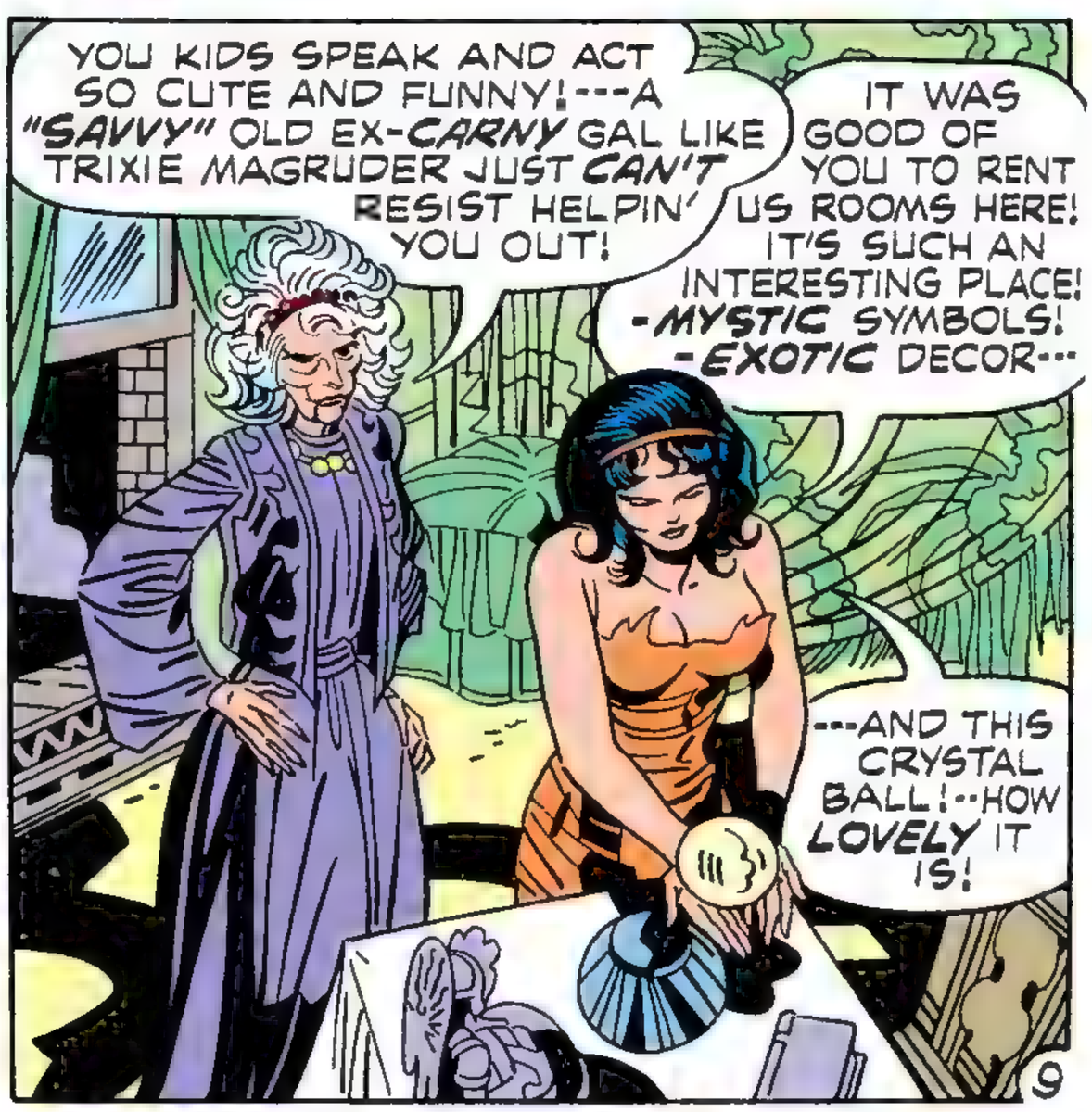

MY LIFE AS BOSTON BRAND--- MY MISSION BEYOND THE GRAVE AS DEADMAN!--- UNTIL THIS MAN ACTED, THEIR DESTINY WAS A CLOSED BOOK!
WELL, I MADE IT WITHOUT BECOMING INVOLVED! I'VE GOT A MORE MONUMENTAL PROBLEM!

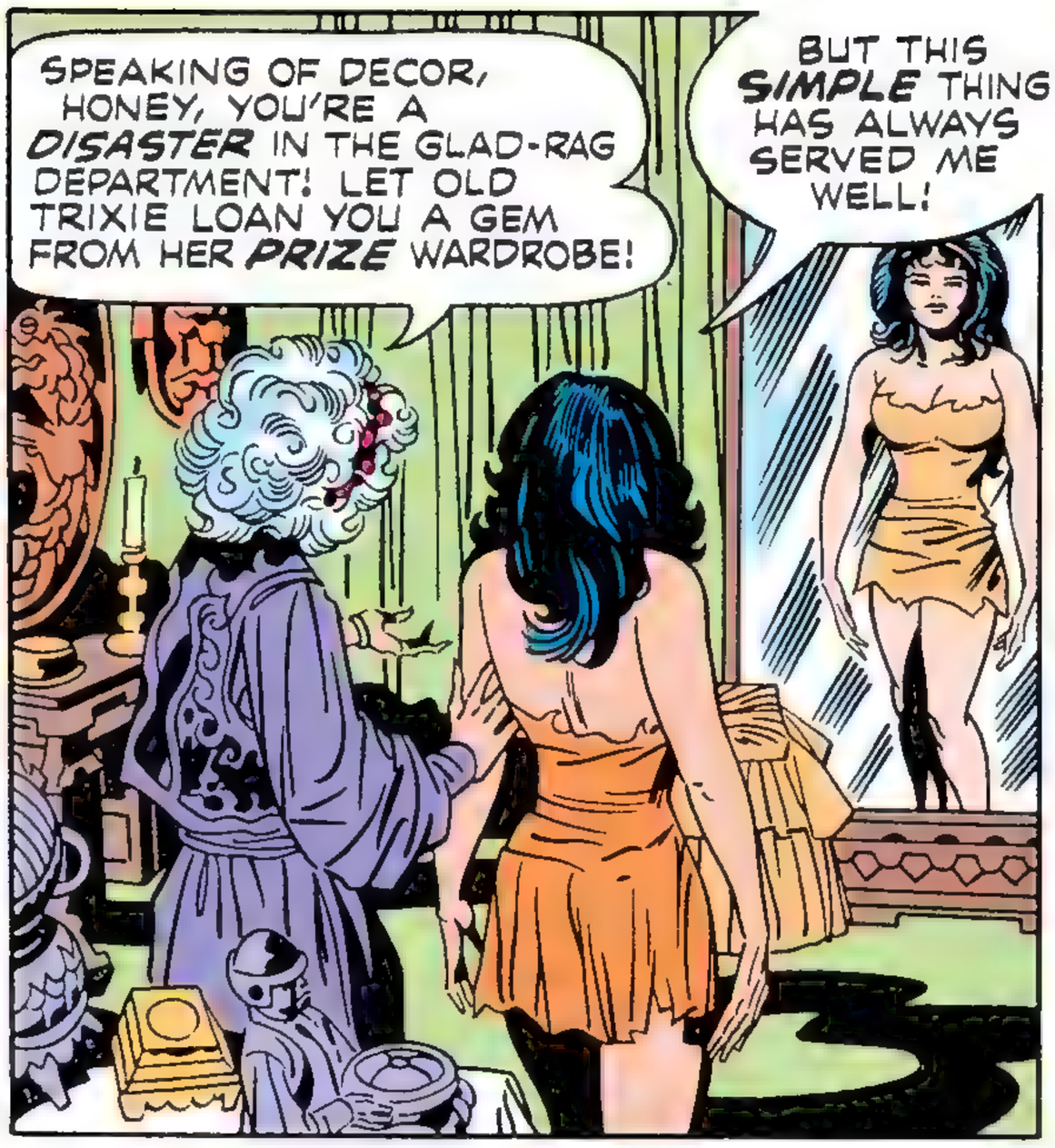
THE ELECTRIC ZONE--- WHERE LIFE IS STORED--- WAITING TO BE TRIGGERED!
I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND--!

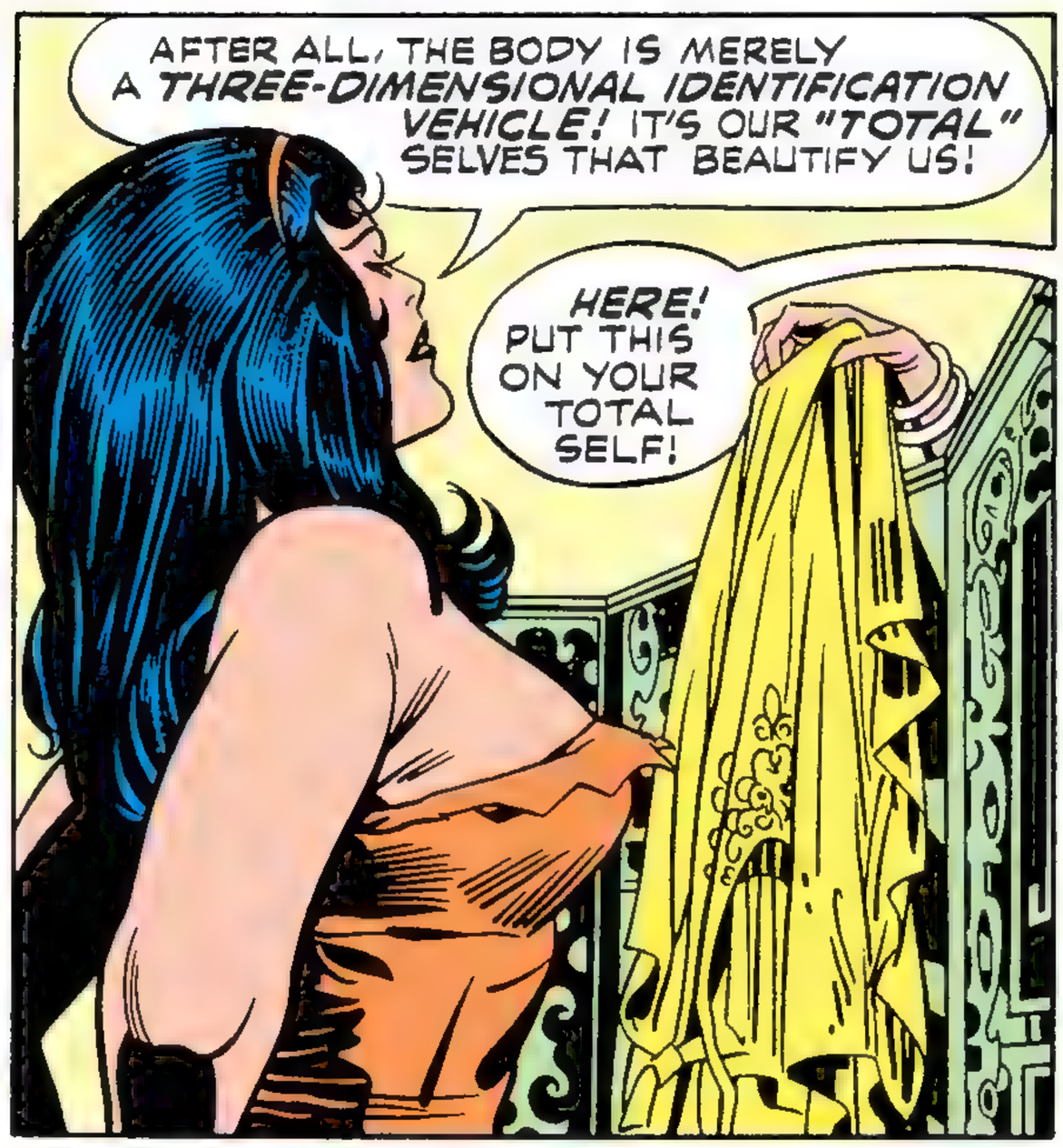

IT'S THE MYSTICISM OF RAMA KUSHNA YOU'RE TAMPERING WITH, MY FRIEND! AND IT HAS MEANING-- FOR ME!
EVERY FACT IN THESE BOOKS SUPPORTS MY THEORY! COULD I HAVE MISSED ONE?

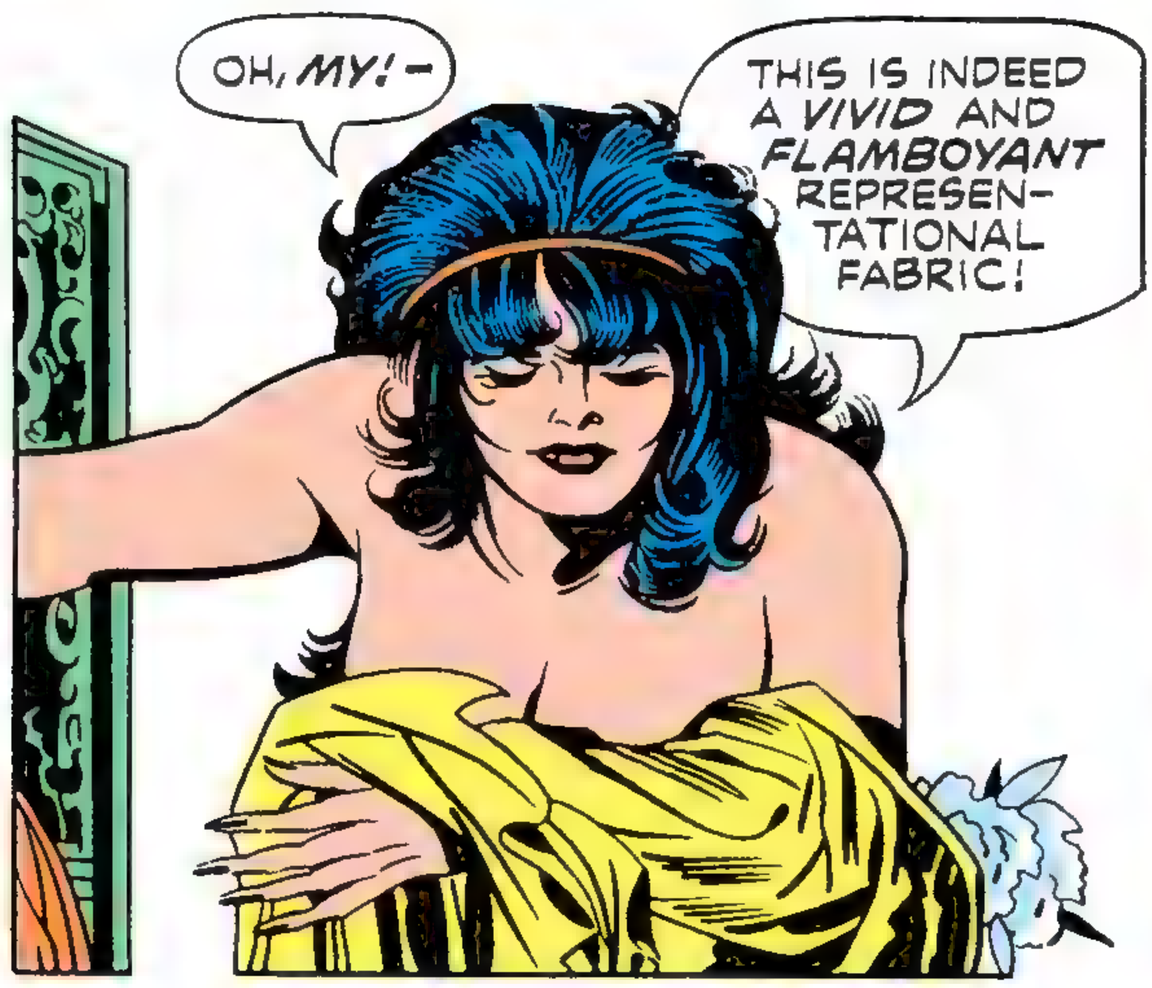

CONFOUND IT! I CAN'T CONCENTRATE WITH ALL THAT CACKLING AND GABBLE COMING FROM MY LANDLADY'S ROOM!

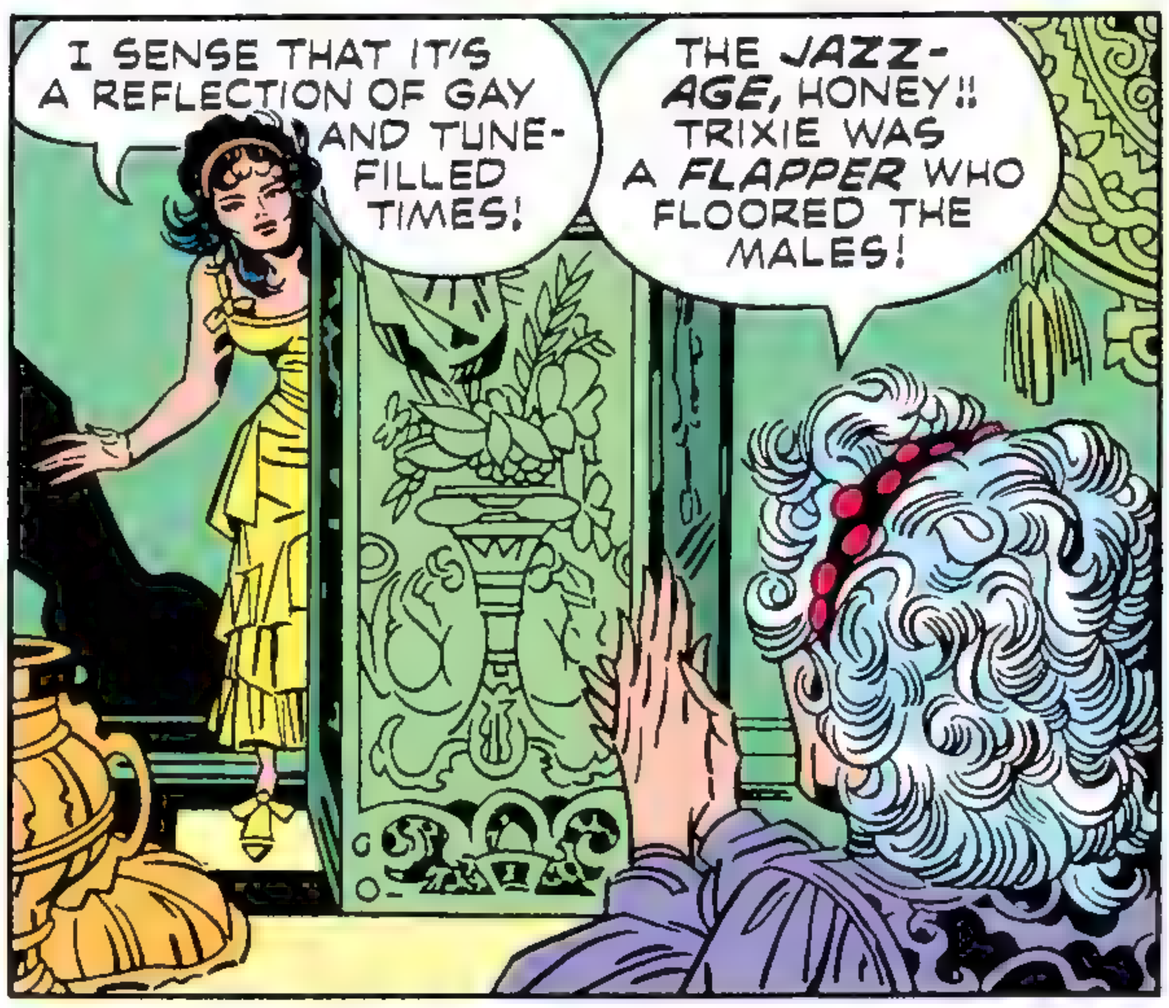
SO! SHE'S TAKEN IN THAT HIPPIE GIRL AND HER FRIENDS! BIRDS OF A FEATHER DO FLOCK TOGETHER!
HAHA HAHAHAH! THAT WAS A GAS!


YOU KIDS SPEAK AND ACT SO CUTE AND FUNNY!---A "SAVVY" OLD EX-CARNY GAL LIKE TRIXIE MAGRUDER JUST CAN'T RESIST HELPIN' YOU OUT!
IT WAS GOOD OF YOU TO RENT US ROOMS HERE! IT'S SUCH AN INTERESTING PLACE! -MYSTIC SYMBOLS! -EXOTIC DECOR---
---AND THIS CRYSTAL BALL!--HOW LOVELY IT IS!


SPEAKING OF DECOR, HONEY, YOU'RE A DISASTER IN THE GLAD-RAG DEPARTMENT! LET OLD TRIXIE LOAN YOU A GEM FROM HER PRIZE WARDROBE!
BUT THIS SIMPLE THING HAS ALWAYS SERVED ME WELL!

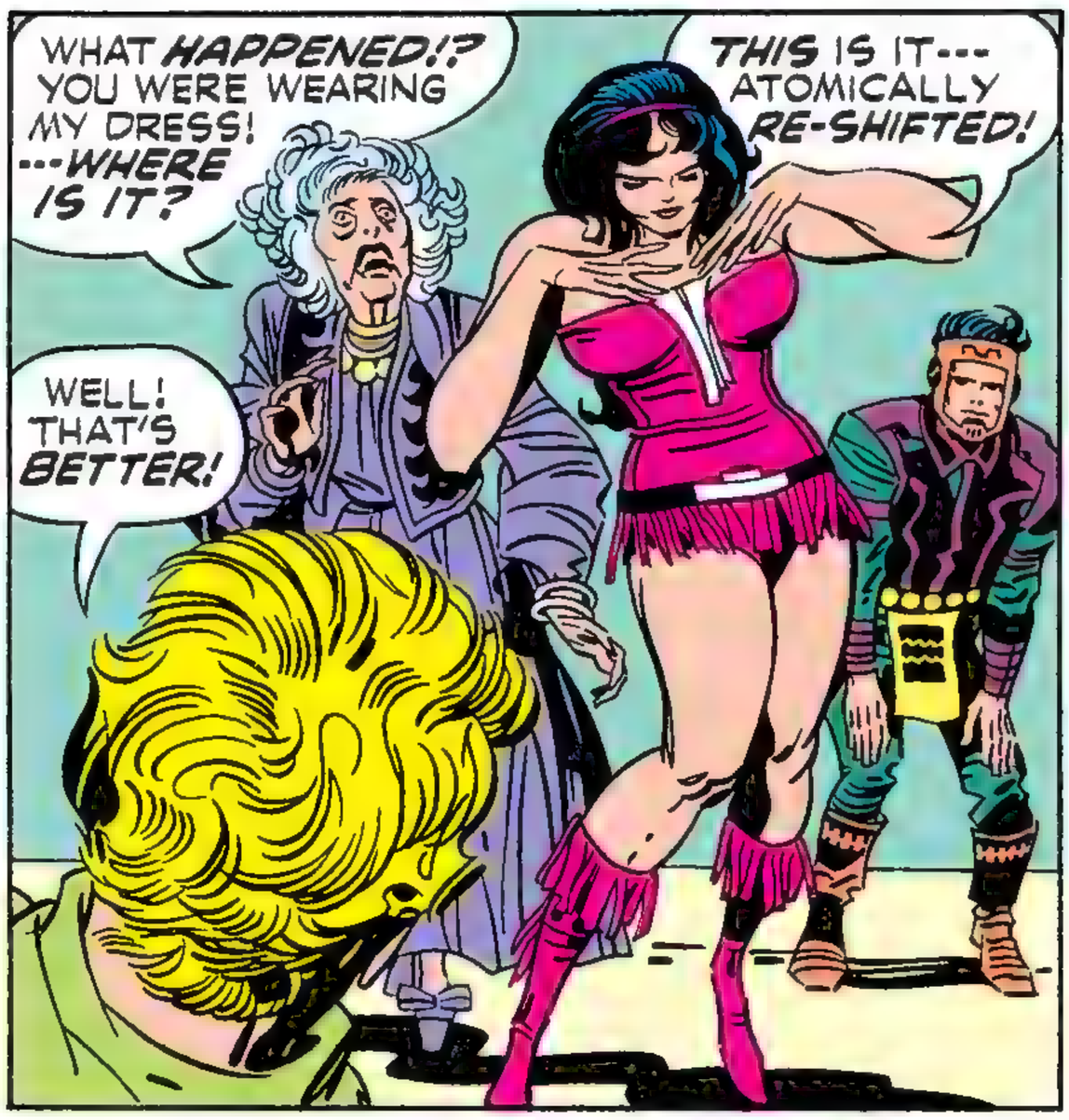

AFTER ALL, THE BODY IS MERELY A THREE-DIMENSIONAL IDENTIFICATION VEHICLE! IT'S OUR "TOTAL" SELVES THAT BEAUTIFY US!
HERE! PUT THIS ON YOUR TOTAL SELF!

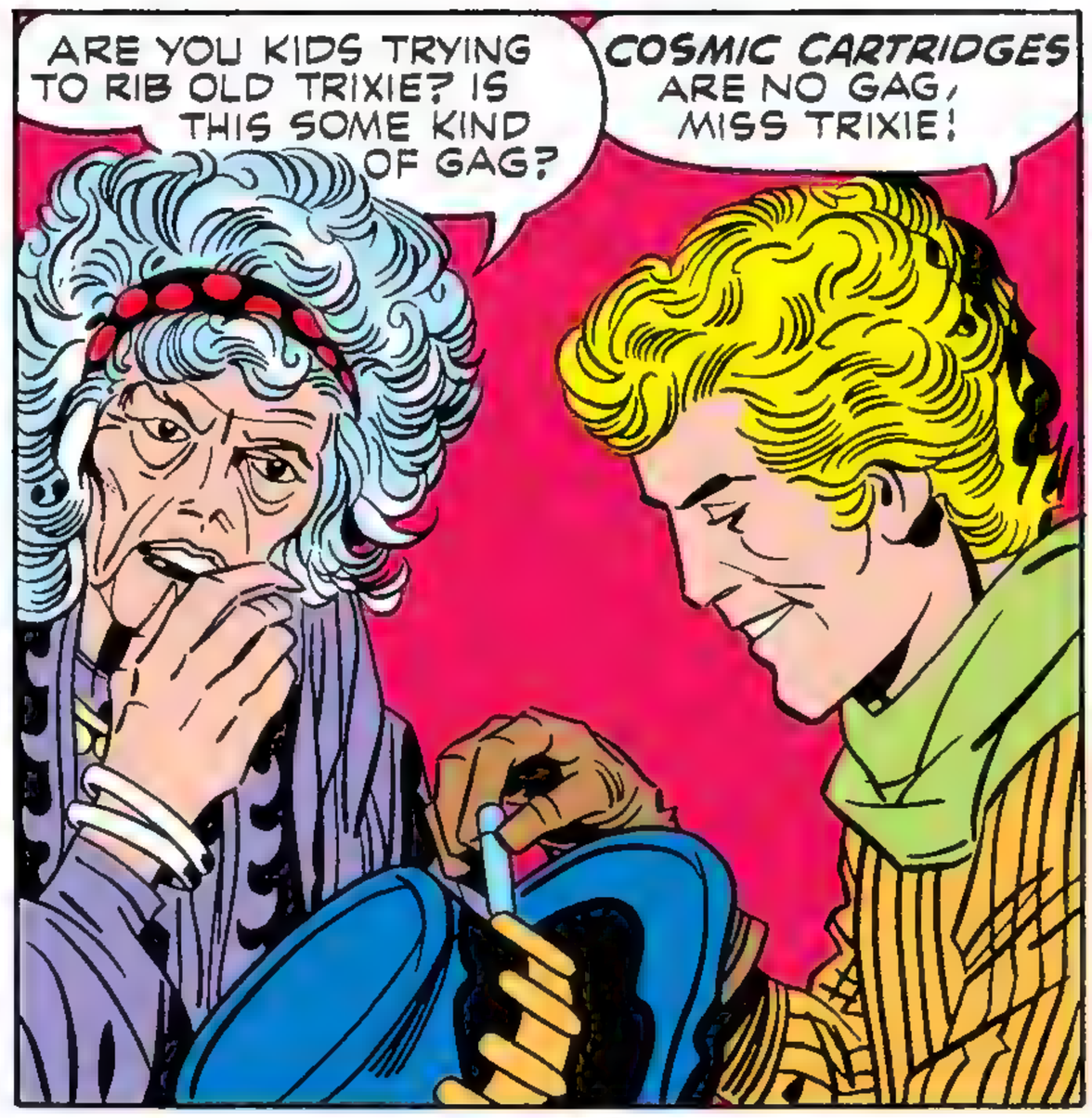

OH, MY! –
THIS IS INDEED A VIVID AND FLAMBOYANT REPRESEN-TATIONAL FABRIC!

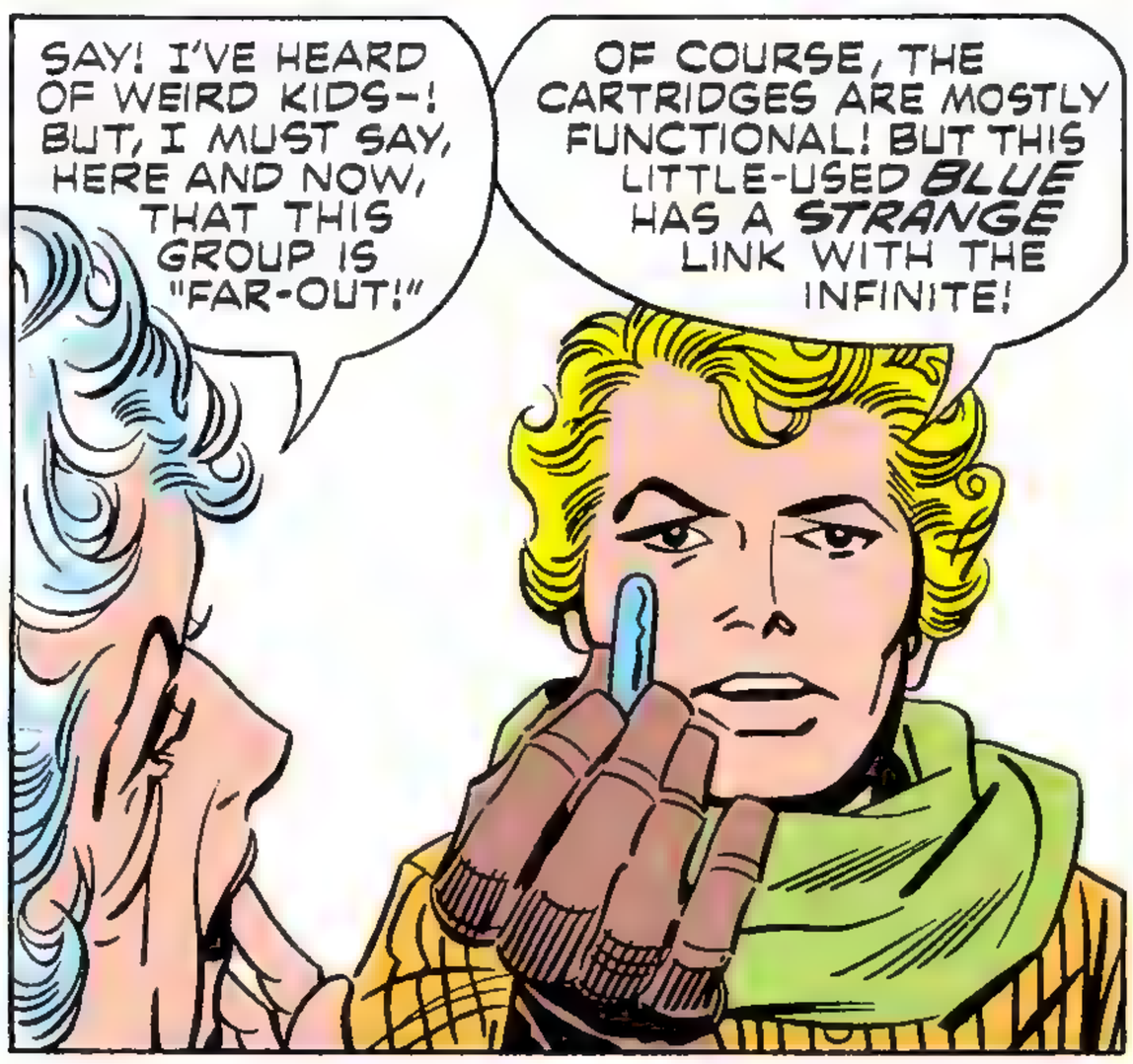

I SENSE THAT IT'S A REFLECTION OF GAY AND TUNE-FILLED TIMES!
THE JAZZ-AGE, HONEY!! TRIXIE WAS A FLAPPER WHO FLOORED THE MALES!

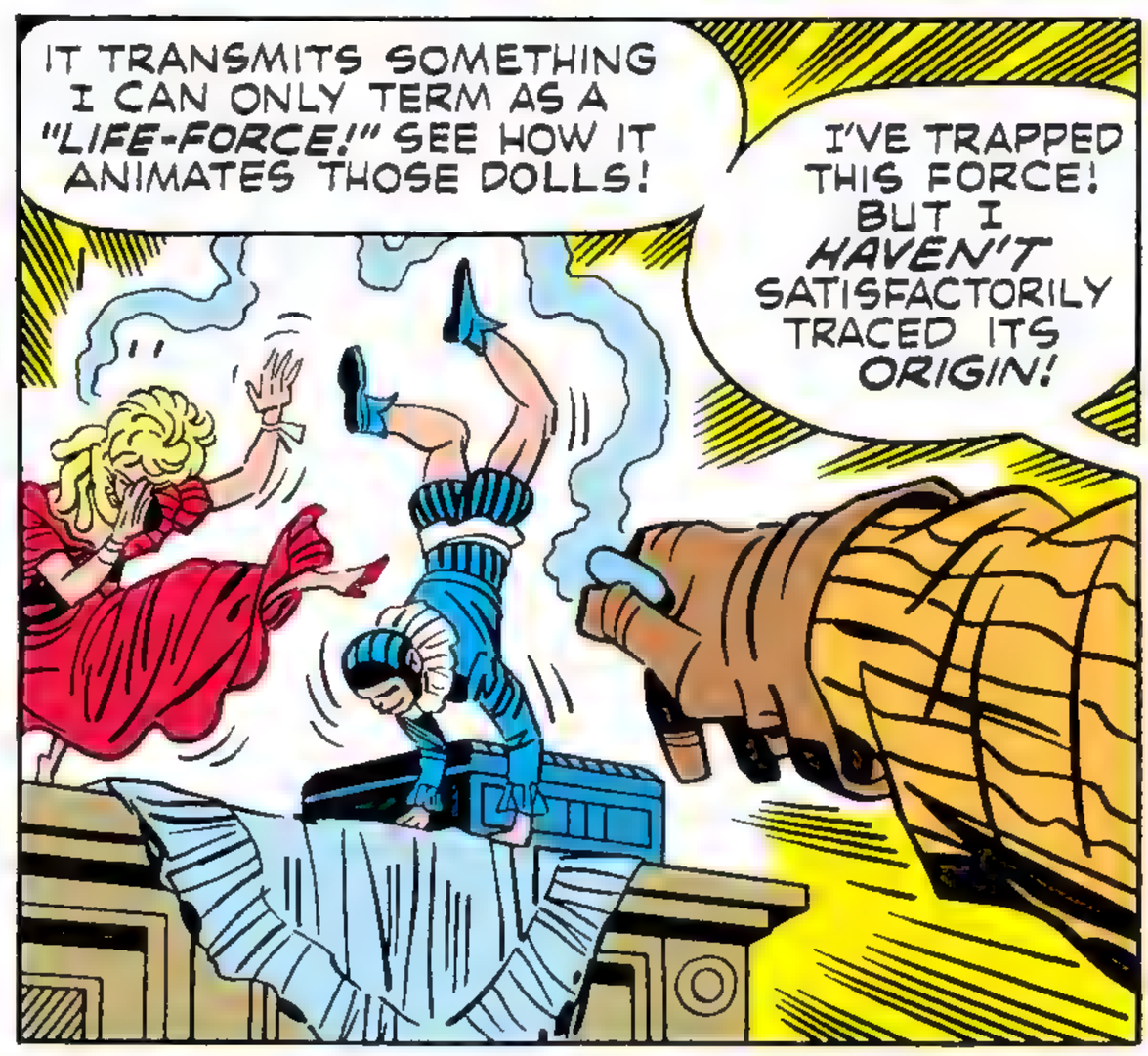
I HAD STYLE IN THOSE DAYS! OLD TRIXIE GREW UP AS QUEEN OF THE CARNIVAL FORTUNE-TELLERS! HOW I LOVED TO DANCE AND DATE!
YES, BUT I SOMEHOW FEEL THAT THIS MAY BE A BIT OBSOLETE NOW!

SUDDENLY---
YIPES! LOOK AT BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
SKKASSK!
I'LL SOON CHANGE THAT ATROCITY SHE'S WEARING!
10

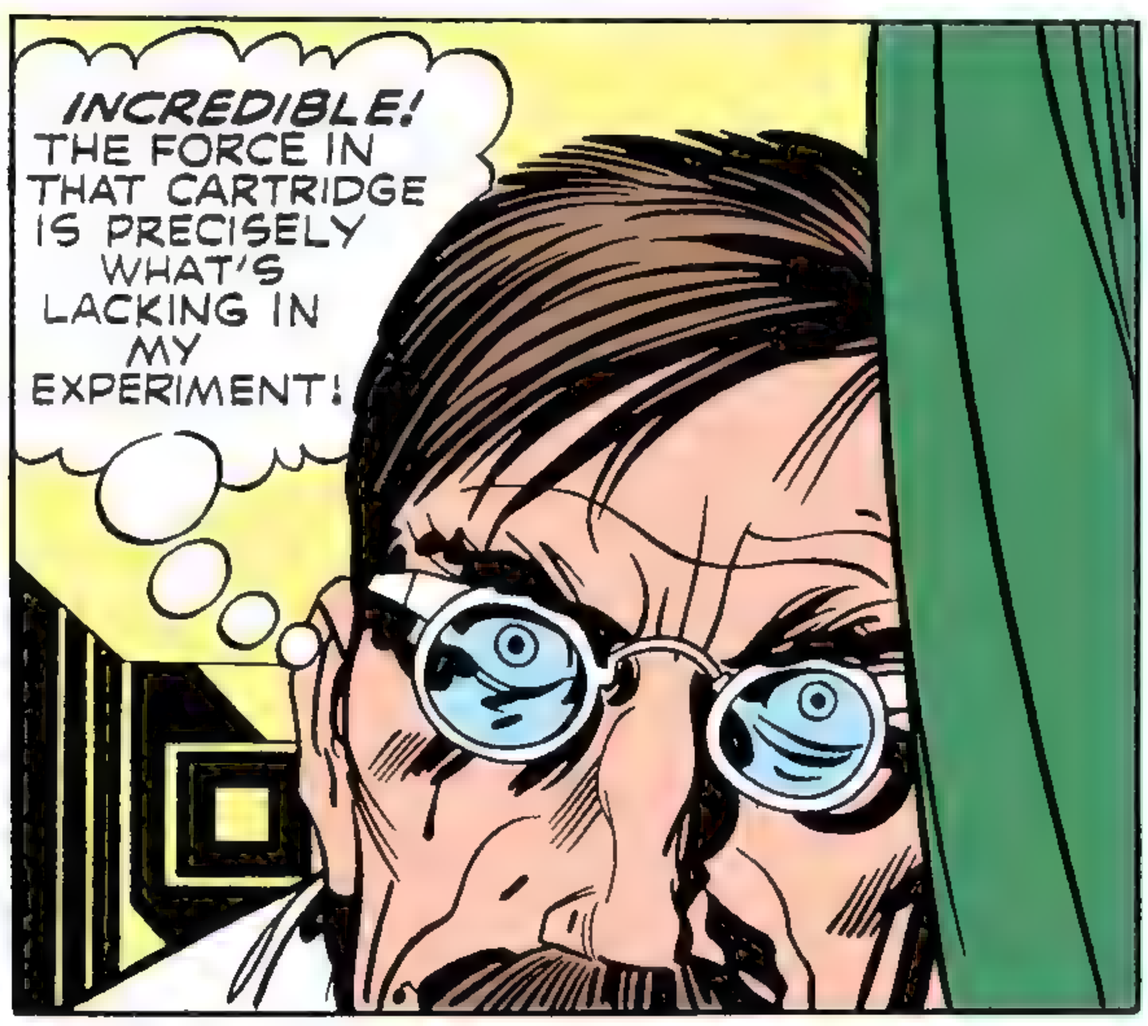


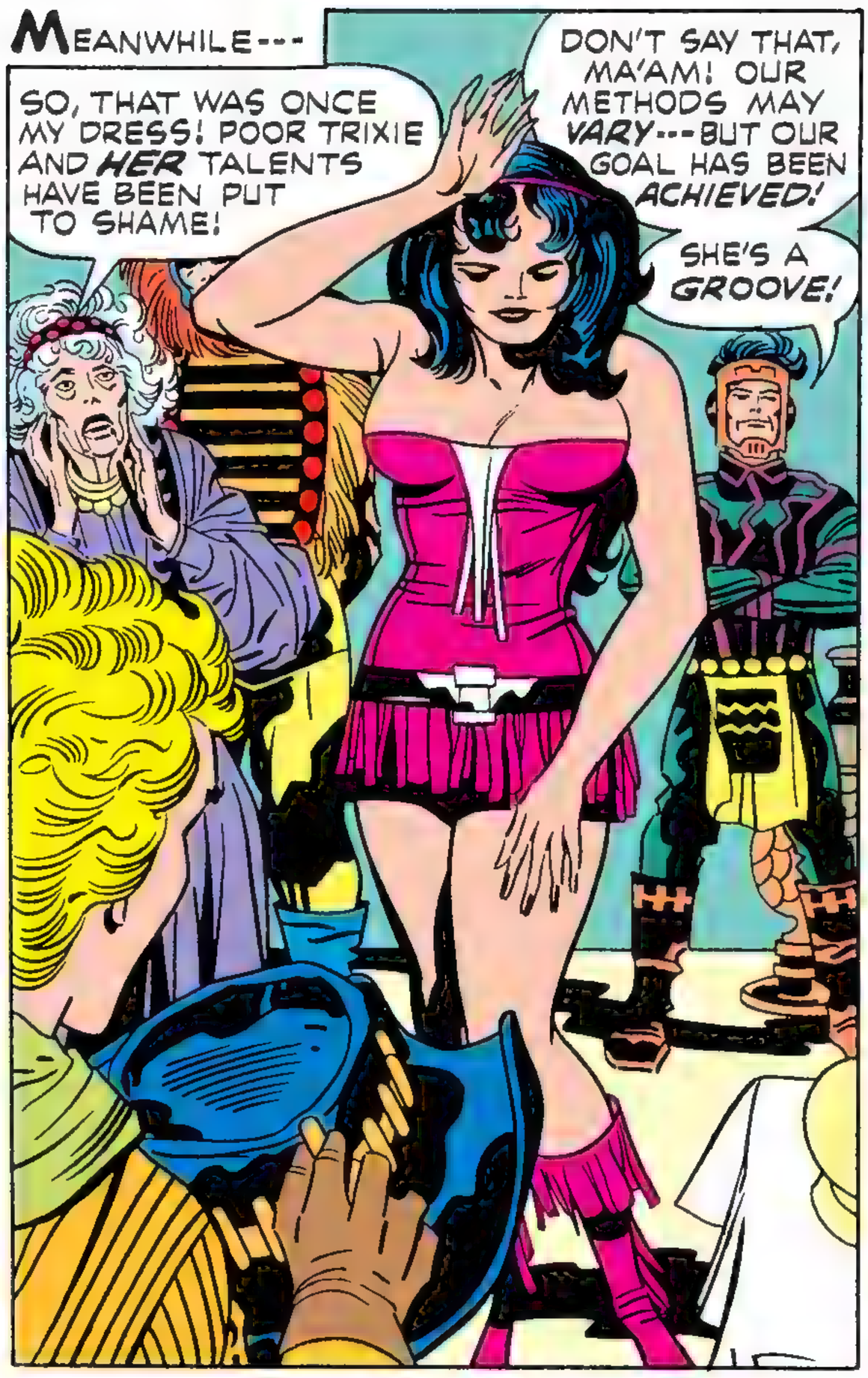






THERE IS A WITNESS, PEERING FROM AN ADJOINING WINDOW, WHOSE INTEREST IS ALSO AROUSED!---"DOC" GIDEON!!!

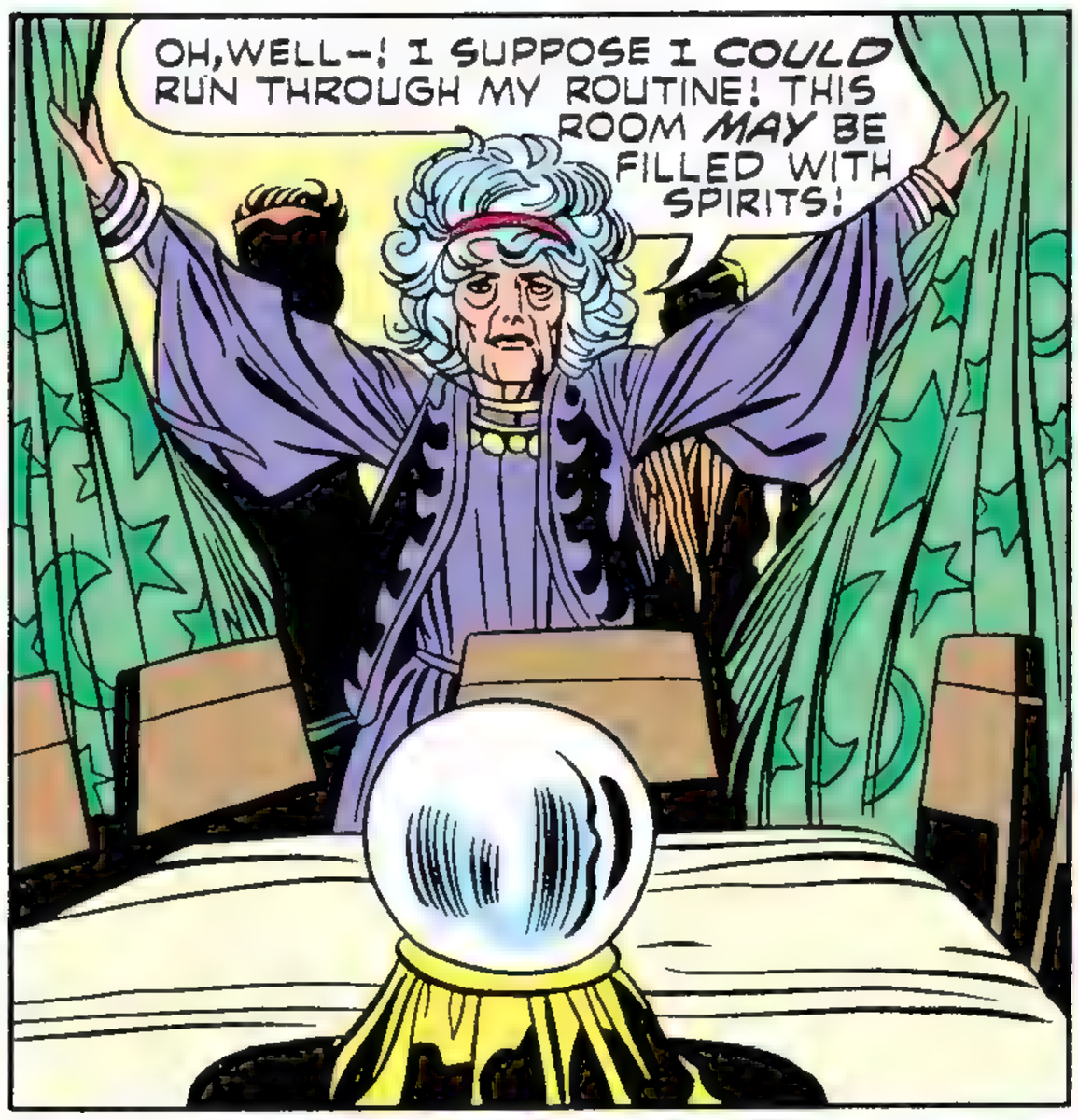


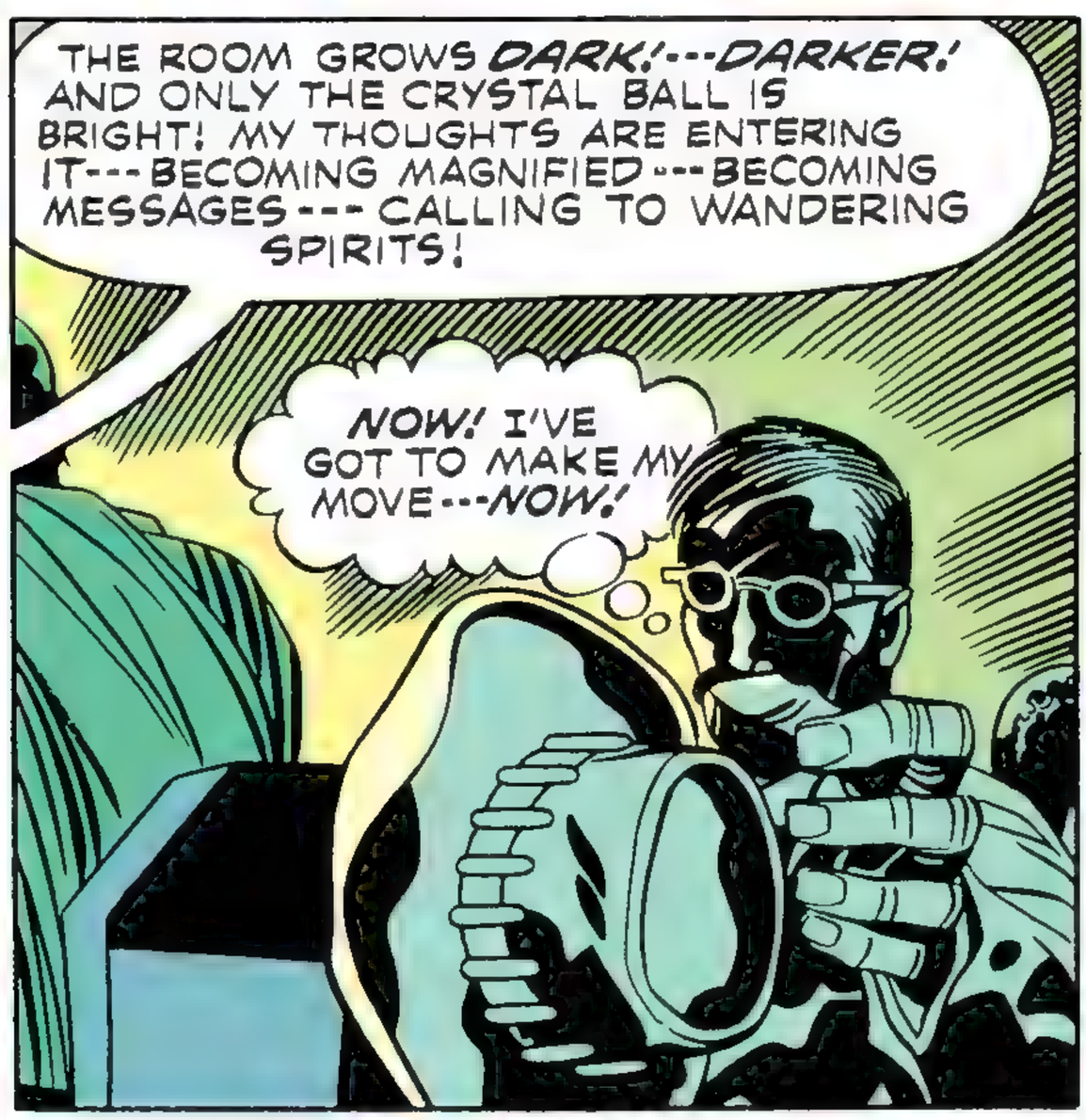

MEANWHILE---
SO, THAT WAS ONCE MY DRESS! POOR TRIXIE AND HER TALENTS HAVE BEEN PUT TO SHAME!
DON'T SAY THAT, MA'AM! OUR METHODS MAY VARY---BUT OUR GOAL HAS BEEN ACHIEVED!
SHE'S A GROOVE!

AND SO ARE YOU, MISS TRIXIE! RENTING US THOSE ROOMS ON FAITH OF PAYMENT WAS GENEROUS INDEED! AND THE ANTIQUATED FURNISHINGS!--- A REAL "DEPRESSION-NEW DEAL-ENVIRONMENTAL!" WOW!!
WE'LL FIND THE MEANS TO PAY YOUR RENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
IT'S WONDERFUL TO BE APPRECIATED! WE'LL HAVE SUCH GOOD TIMES!

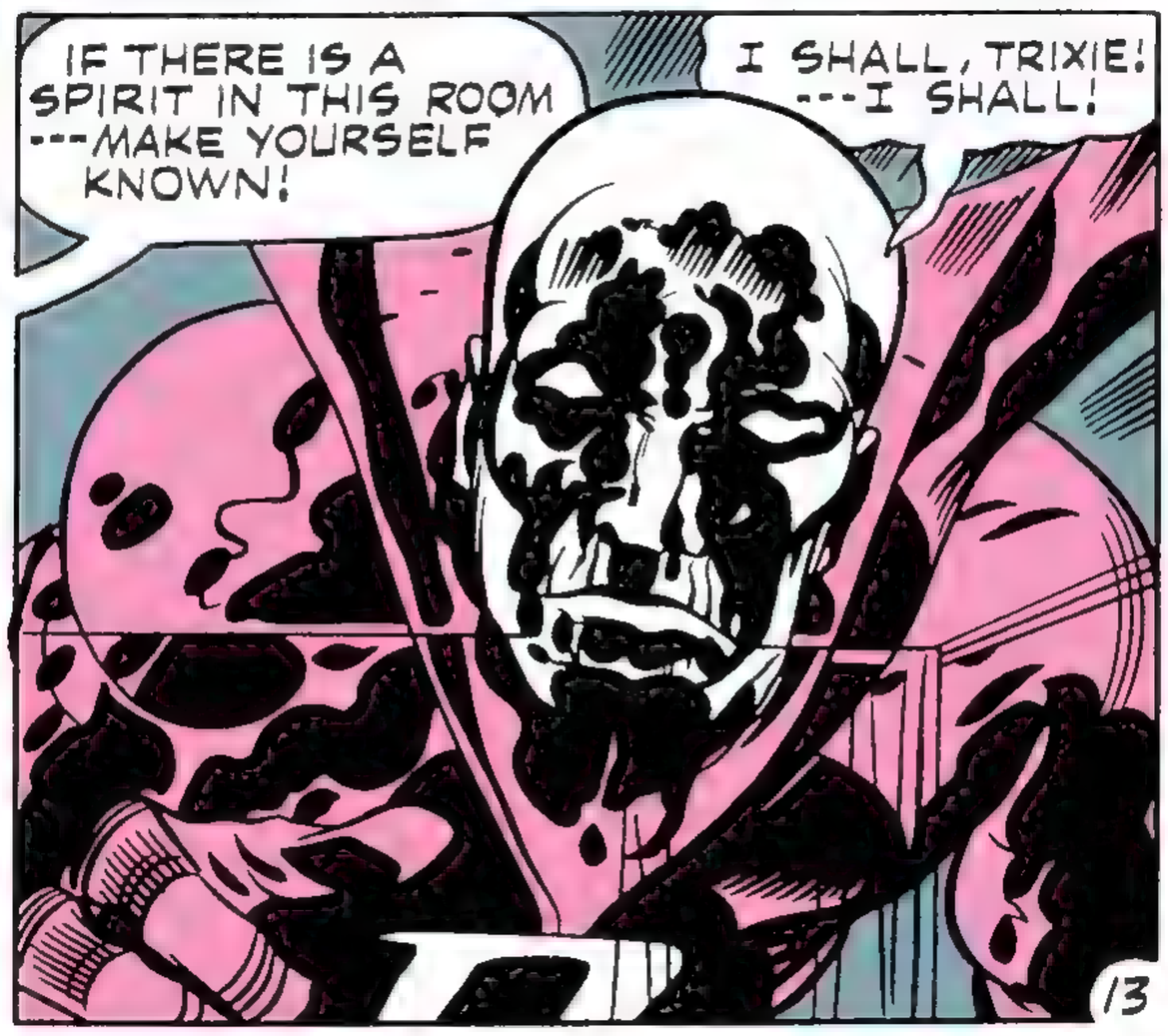
I BELIEVE I WAS INVITED TO ONE OF YOUR EXCITING SEANCES TONIGHT, REMEMBER, TRIXIE?!
OH, IT'S YOU, "DOC!" HUH! I INVITED YOU, ALL RIGHT—BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO SHOW! COME ON IN!

MEET "DOC" GIDEON, KIDS! HE'S AN ATTENDANT AT THE CITY MORGUE! WHILE HE SENDS OFF THE DEAD--- I BRING BACK THEIR "SPIRITS!"
HELLO! I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ALL INVITED TO TRIXIE'S SEANCE! SHE'S A FINE MEDIUM!
12





EVEN AS "DOC" GIDEON IGNORES THE SEANCE TO ATTAIN HIS OBJECTIVE, THERE'S A PRESENCE IN THE ROOM WHO IS VERY MUCH ATTUNED!!



HAHAHAH! BEAUTIFUL DREAMER HAS ADDED AN EERIE LIGHT SHOW ILLUSION WHICH HAS TAKEN OUR MEDIUM BY SURPRISE!!

OH! -ER- *DON'T* PANIC! I-I DIDN'T EXPECT TH-THIS KIND OF THING TO HAPPEN! I-I---

I *DID* IT! I'VE *GOT* THE CARTRIDGE!

Y'KNOW---I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A SORT OF GIMMICKY CARNIVAL PRACTITIONER! BUT ONE NIGHT I SAW OUR STAR ACROBAT DIE--- A GUY NAMED *BOSTON BRAND*--- AND, EVER SINCE---I---

SOMETHING'S AFOOT! SHE *ACTUALLY* SENSES SOME SORT OF *PRESENCE*---

I'LL *DO* IT! FOR *ONCE* I'LL DO THIS WITH SINCERITY!!

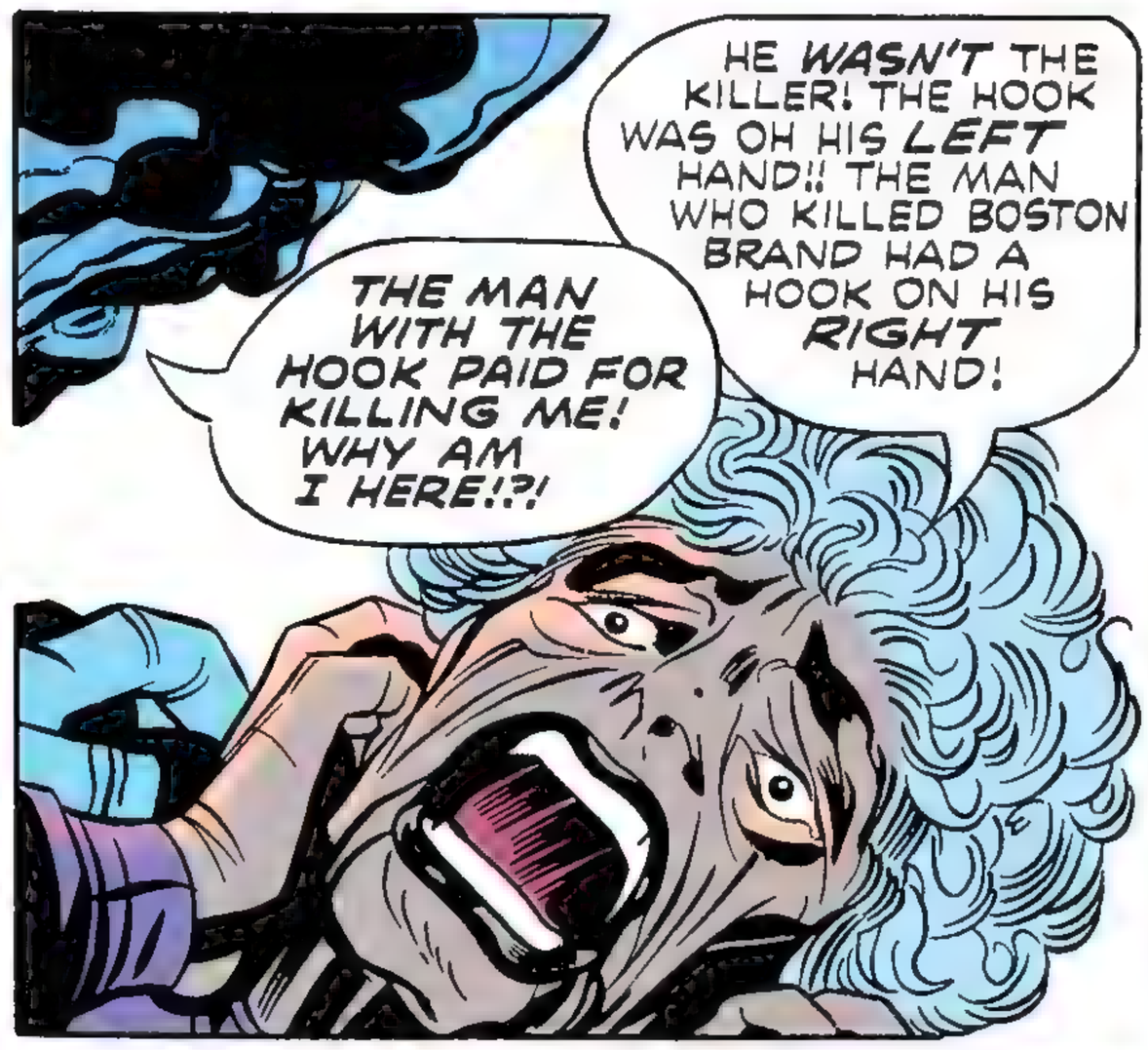
WILL THIS DO, TRIXIE!?

BOSTON BRAND! IF YOUR SPIRIT IS IN THIS ROOM--- *GIVE ME A SIGN!*

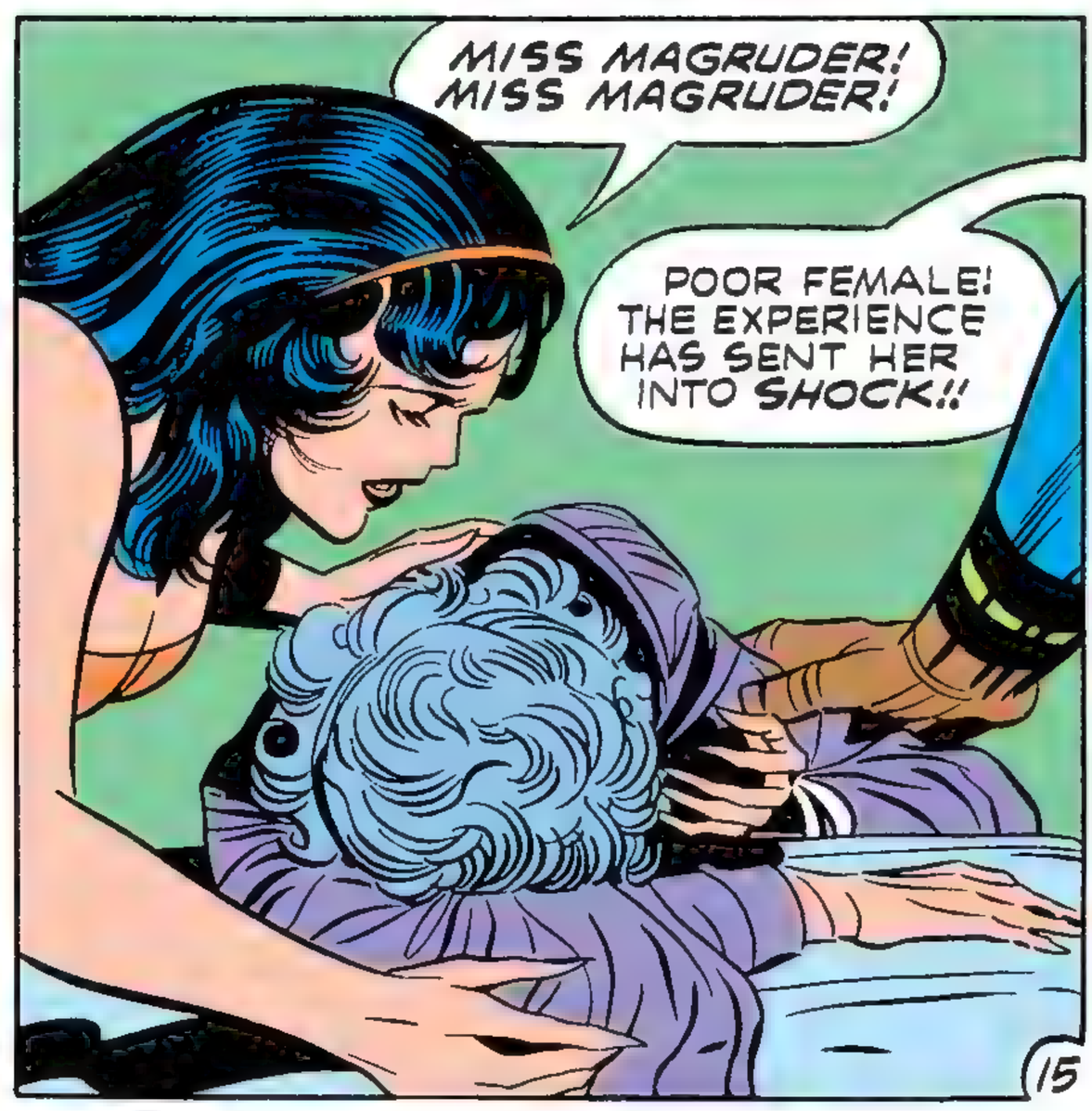
14

AAAAA!! YOU'RE BACK! I-I KNOW YOUR VOICE-! IT'S REALLY YOU, BOSTON!
A DEADMAN IS BACK! WHY? WHY? I FOUND MY KILLER! HE WAS DESTROYED!

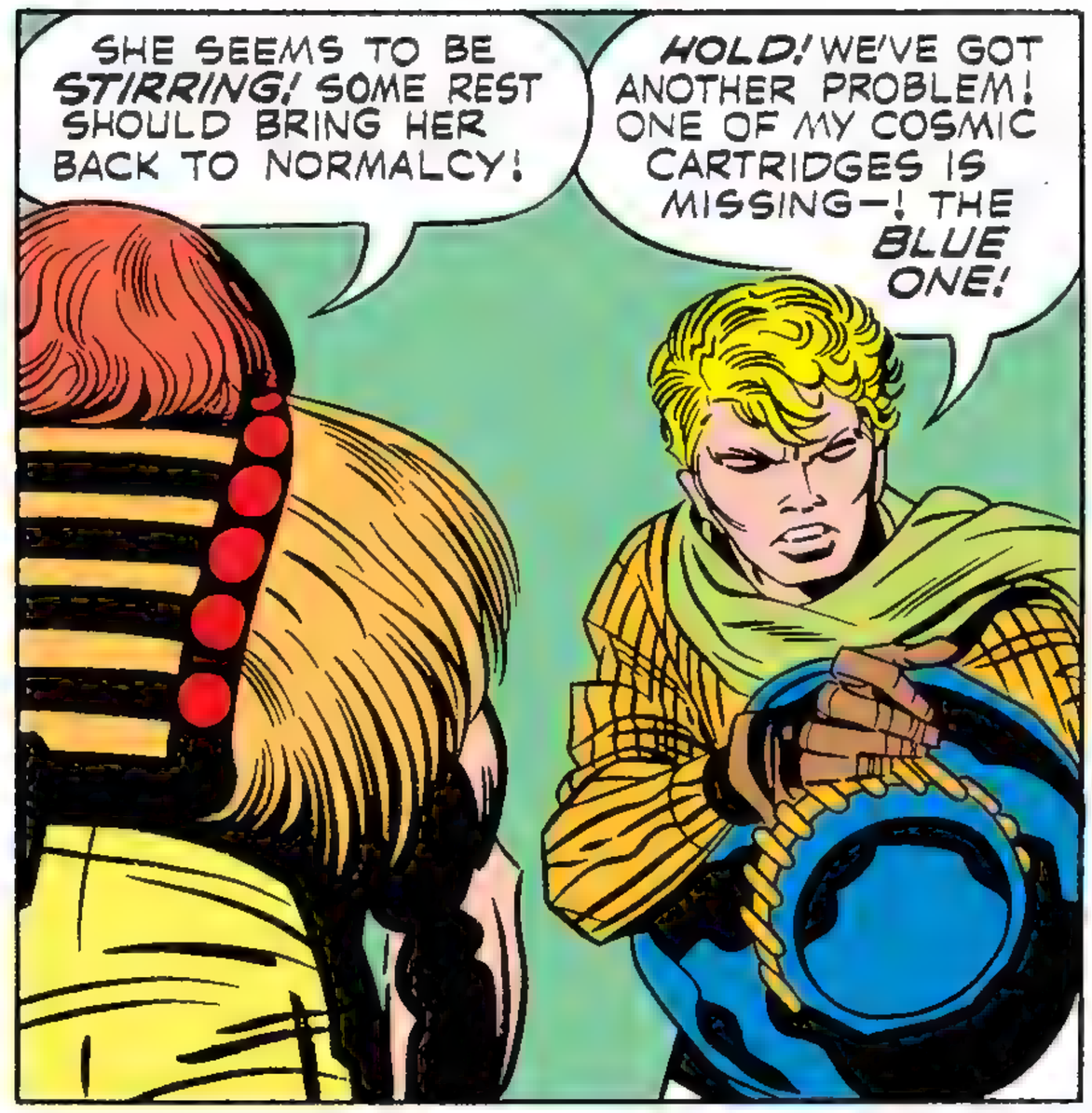
YET I'M BACK, TRIXIE! I ACHIEVED VENGEANCE! YET---HERE I AM--- ---AGAIN!
WHY? YOU SAW! YOU KNOW THE ANSWER!

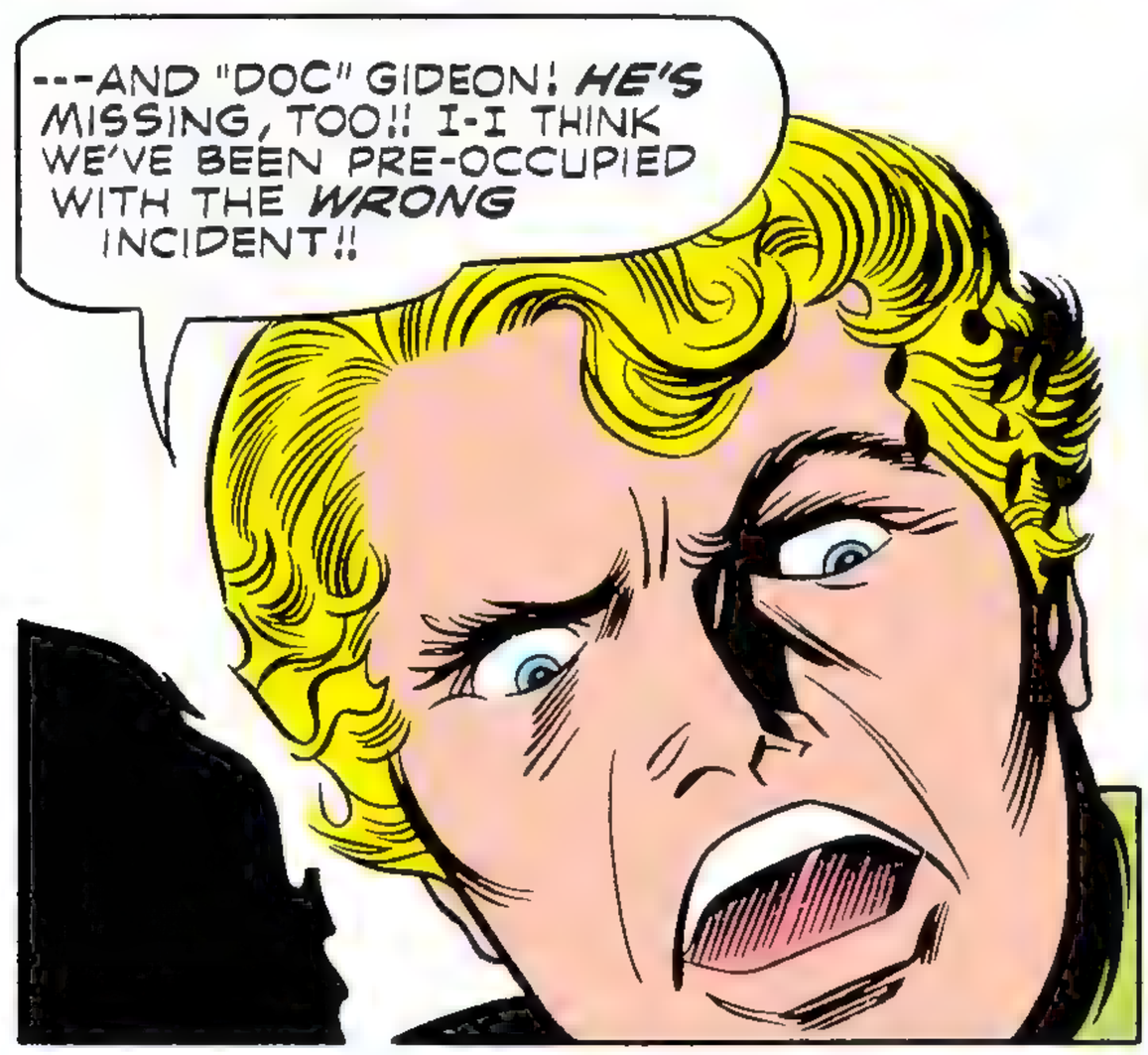

HE WASN'T THE KILLER! THE HOOK WAS ON HIS LEFT HAND!! THE MAN WHO KILLED BOSTON BRAND HAD A HOOK ON HIS RIGHT HAND!
THE MAN WITH THE HOOK PAID FOR KILLING ME! WHY AM I HERE!?!

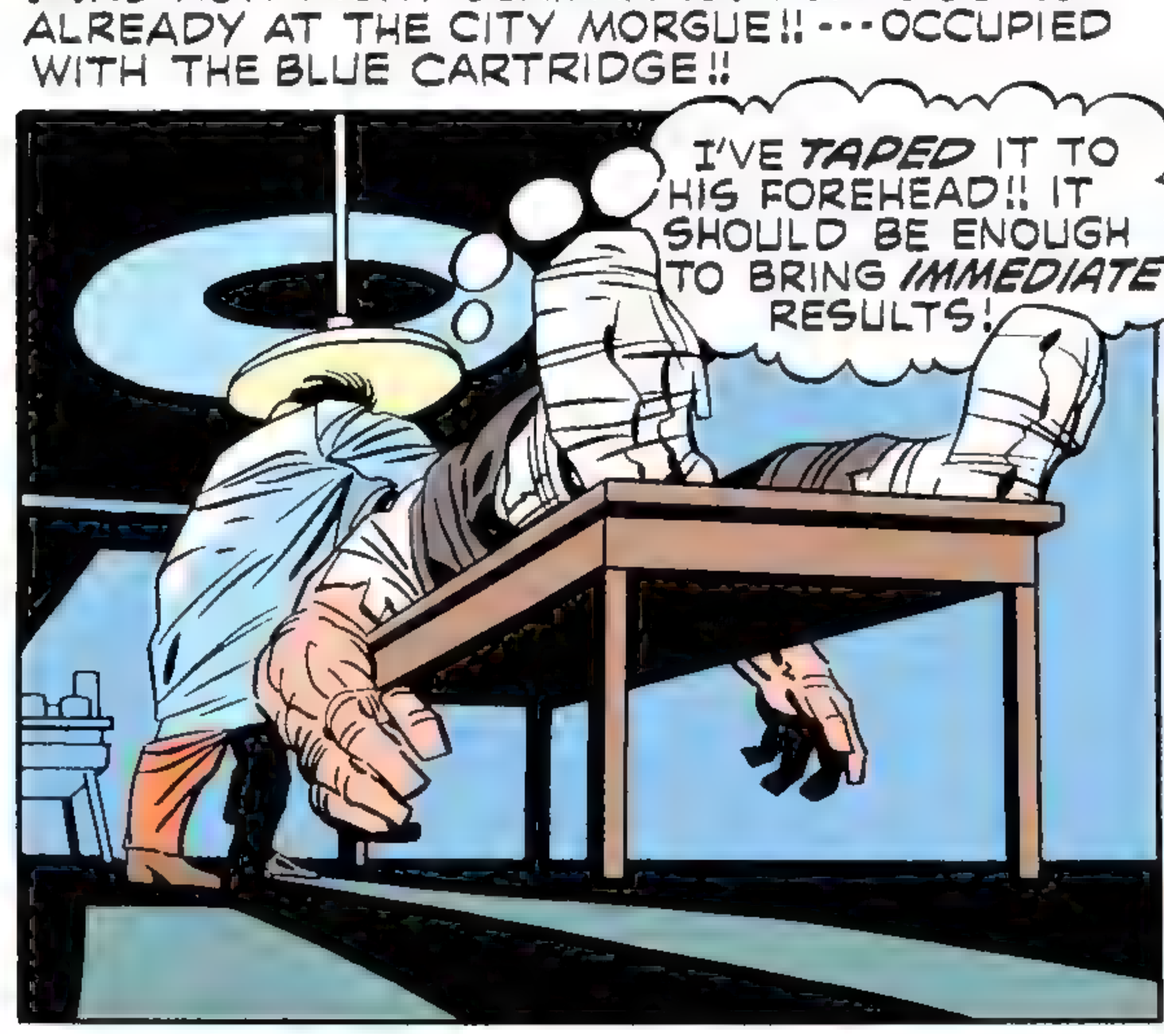
YOU WERE AT THE MURDER SCENE-? YOU SAW---?
YES! YES! I SAW! I SAW IT HAPPEN! AAAAAAAAA---
SHE'S FAINTED!

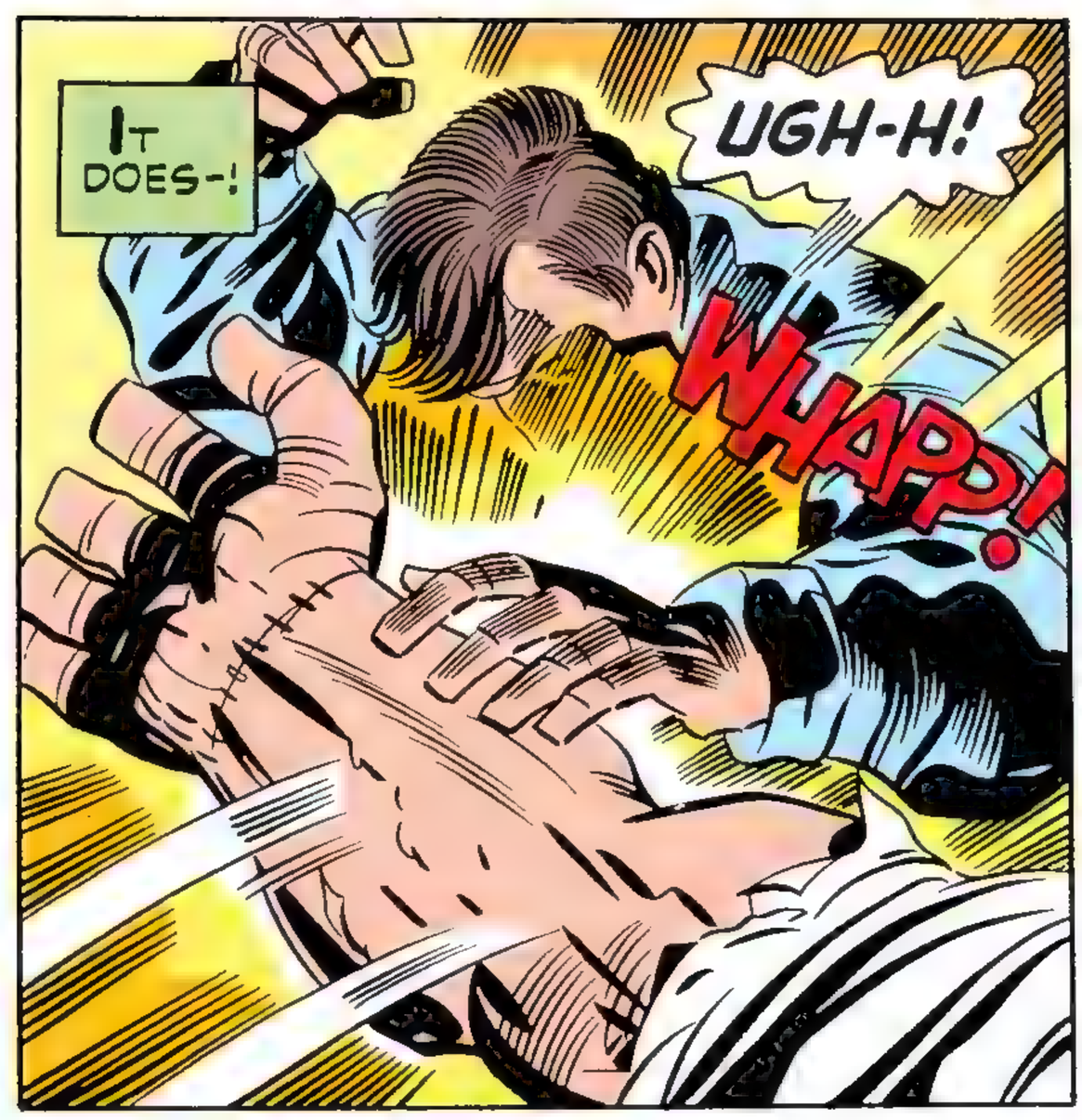

MISS MAGRUDER! MISS MAGRUDER!
POOR FEMALE! THE EXPERIENCE HAS SENT HER INTO SHOCK!!
15

THE APPARITION IS GONE! SOME PROCESS, UNKNOWN TO US, ALMOST GAVE IT STARTLING SOLIDITY!
THE EFFECT WAS MOST TRAUMATIC TO HER!


SHE SEEMS TO BE STIRRING! SOME REST SHOULD BRING HER BACK TO NORMALCY!
HOLD! WE'VE GOT ANOTHER PROBLEM! ONE OF MY COSMIC CARTRIDGES IS MISSING—! THE BLUE ONE!


---AND "DOC" GIDEON! HE'S MISSING, TOO!! I-I THINK WE'VE BEEN PRE-OCCUPIED WITH THE WRONG INCIDENT!!


AND HOW RIGHT SERIFAN IS! FOR "DOC" IS ALREADY AT THE CITY MORGUE!! ---OCCUPIED WITH THE BLUE CARTRIDGE!!
I'VE TAPED IT TO HIS FOREHEAD!! IT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO BRING IMMEDIATE RESULTS!


IT DOES-!
UGH-H!
WHAPP!

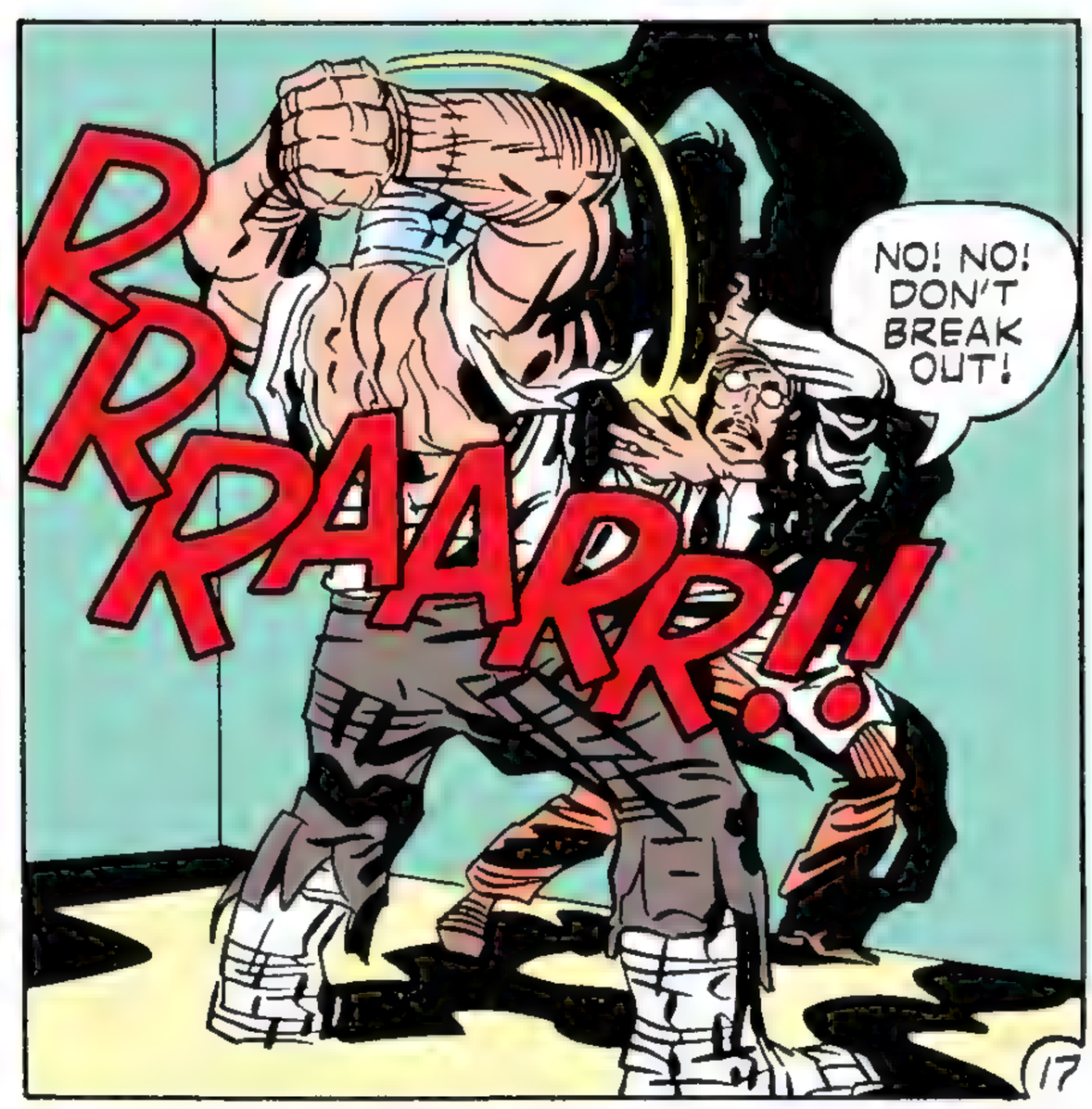
RRMMFF! MMFF!!
I'VE DONE IT! I'VE GIVEN IT--- LIFE!
16

THERE'S NO NAME FOR THE THING! IT'S NOT HUMAN IN THE ACCEPTED SENSE! BUT, IT IS HUGE AND STRONG AND RISES SHAKILY--- LIKE SOME GREAT WARY BEAST!
RRRRFFF! ARRAAG! ARRR!
EASY THERE! DON'T BE FRIGHTENED! I KNOW THAT EVERYTHING MUST SEEM STRANGE TO YOU!

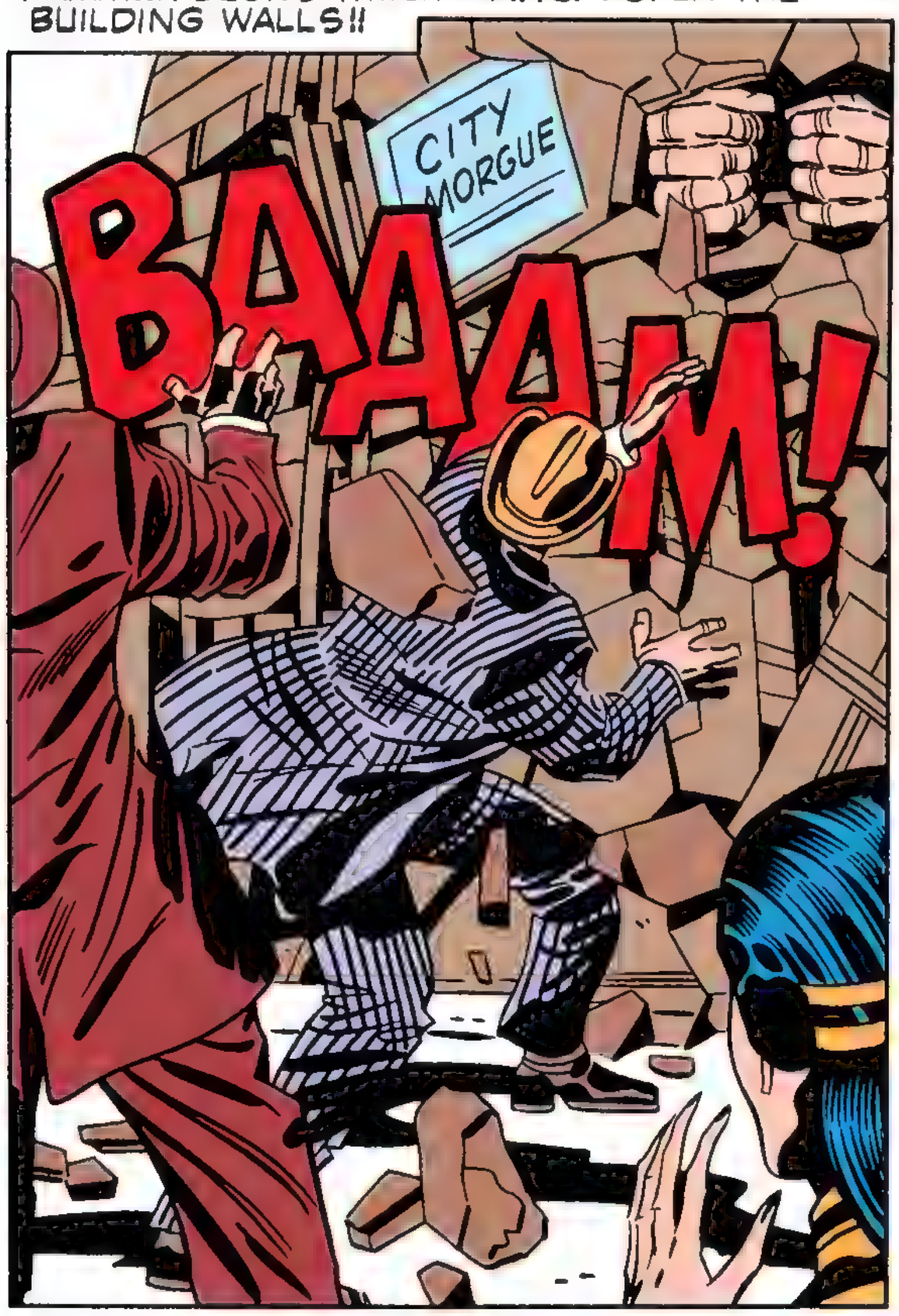
AAAARRR!!!
GOOD LORD! I-I'VE GOT TO CALM HIM DOWN!

SMAAASSH!!

STOP! STOP!

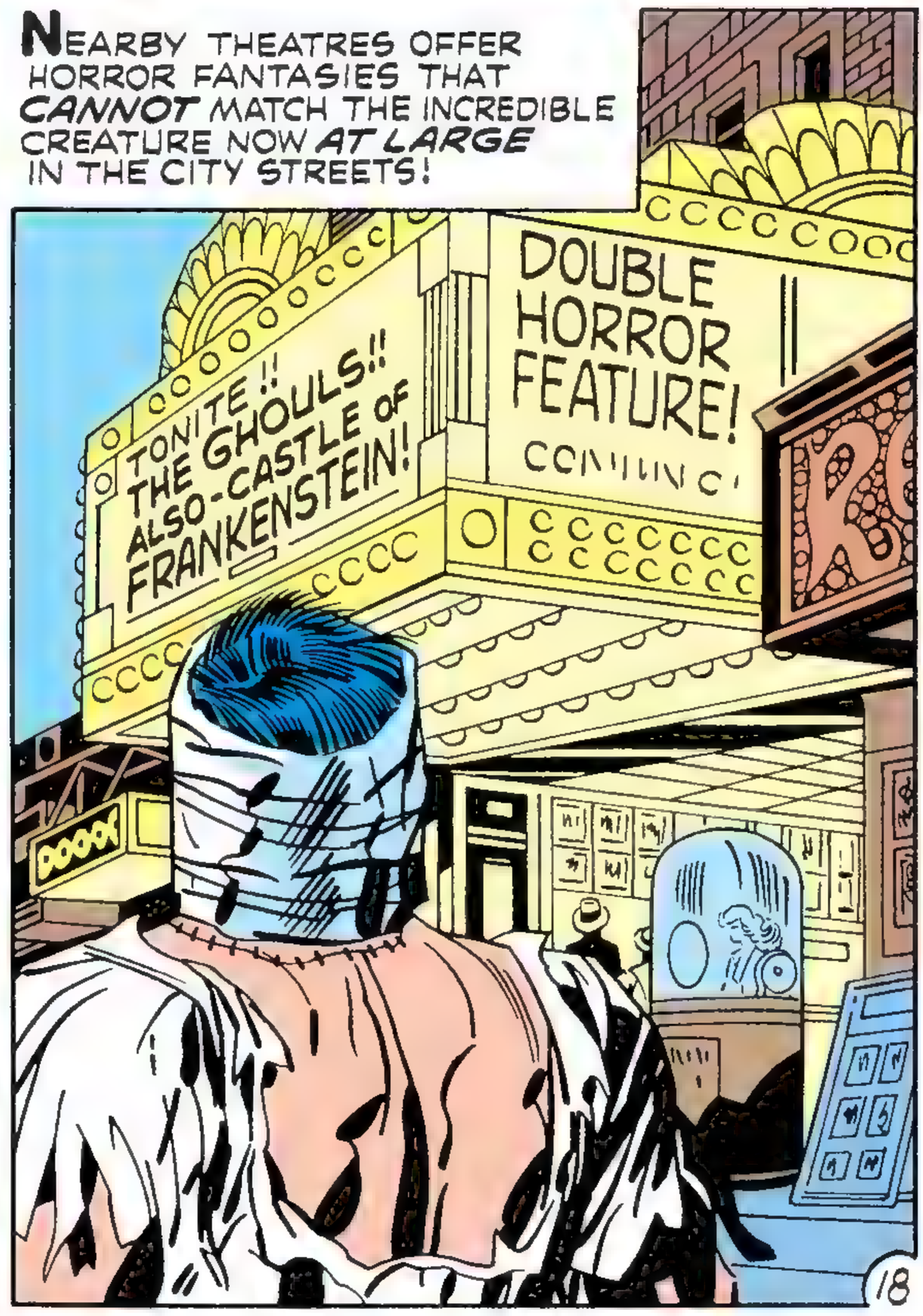

NO! NO! DON'T BREAK OUT!
KRAARR!!
17

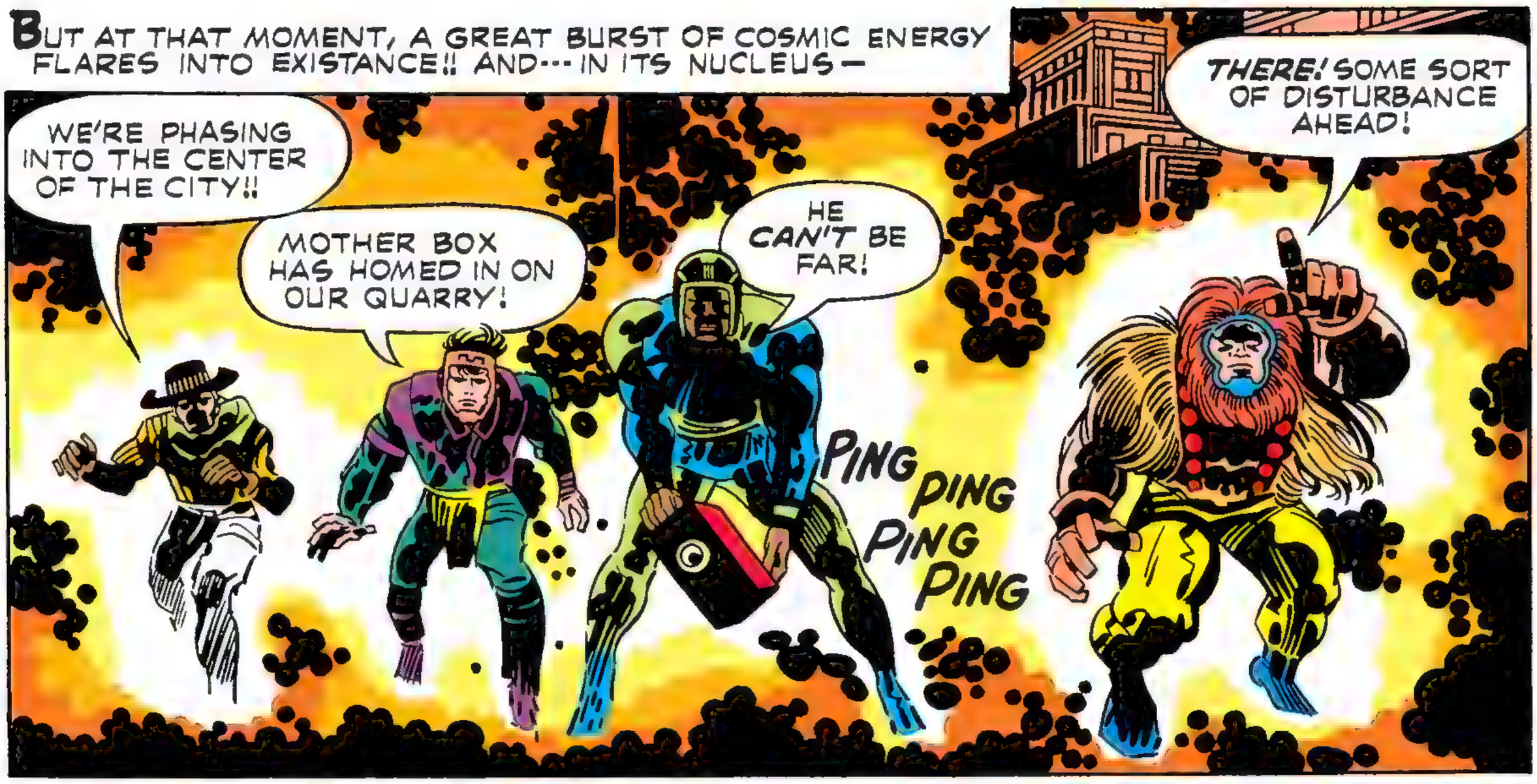
"DOC" GIDEON'S PLEAS ARE TOTALLY *LOST* IN THE ECHOES OF ANIMAL ROARS! ---AND HAMMER BLOWS WHICH *CRACK* OPEN THE BUILDING WALLS!!

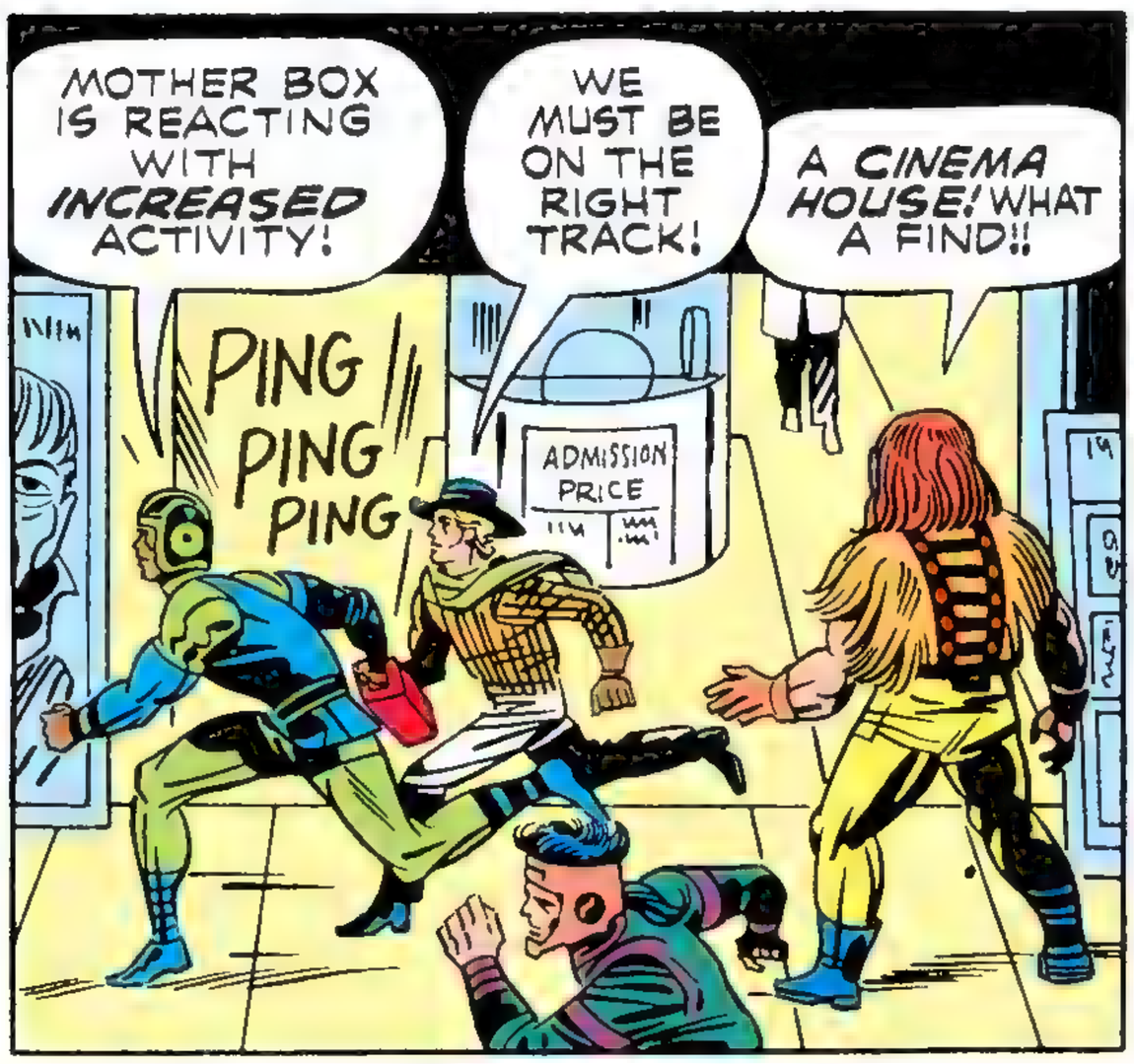


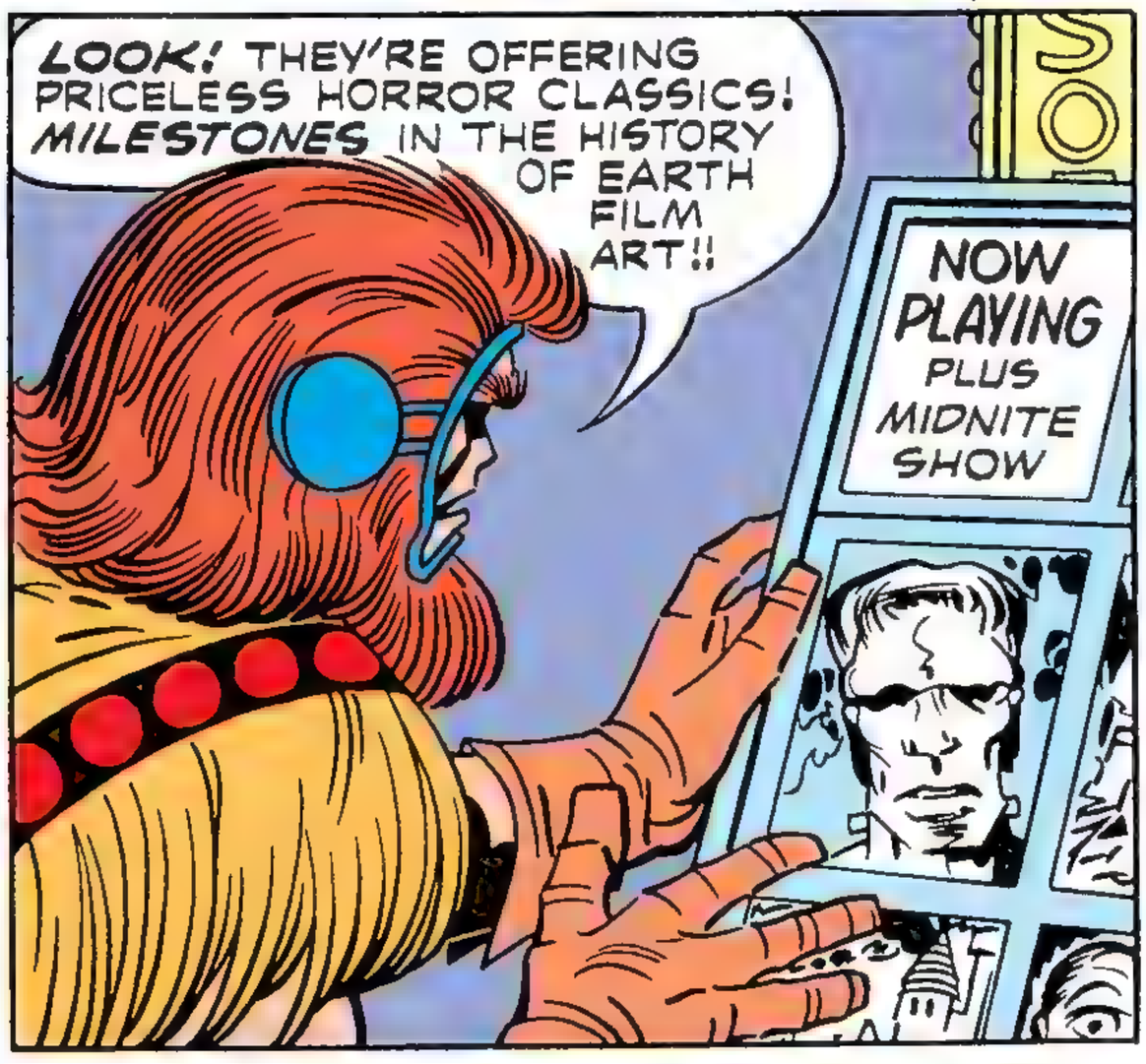
AND WHAT *EMERGES* INTO THE COOL NIGHT IS ENOUGH TO SEND BYSTANDERS FLEEING IN *TERROR!*

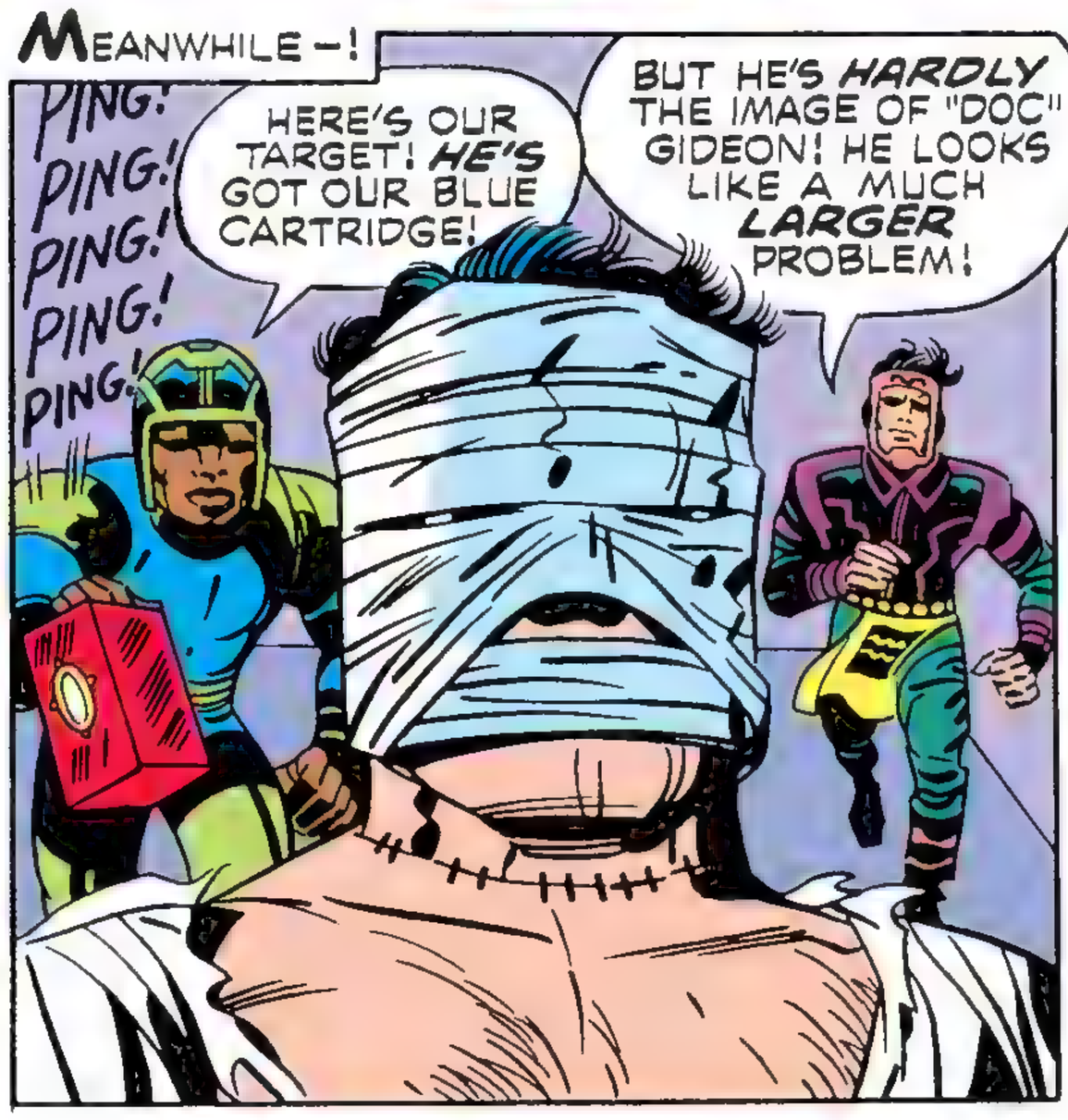
NEARBY THEATRES OFFER HORROR FANTASIES THAT *CANNOT* MATCH THE INCREDIBLE CREATURE NOW *AT LARGE* IN THE CITY STREETS!

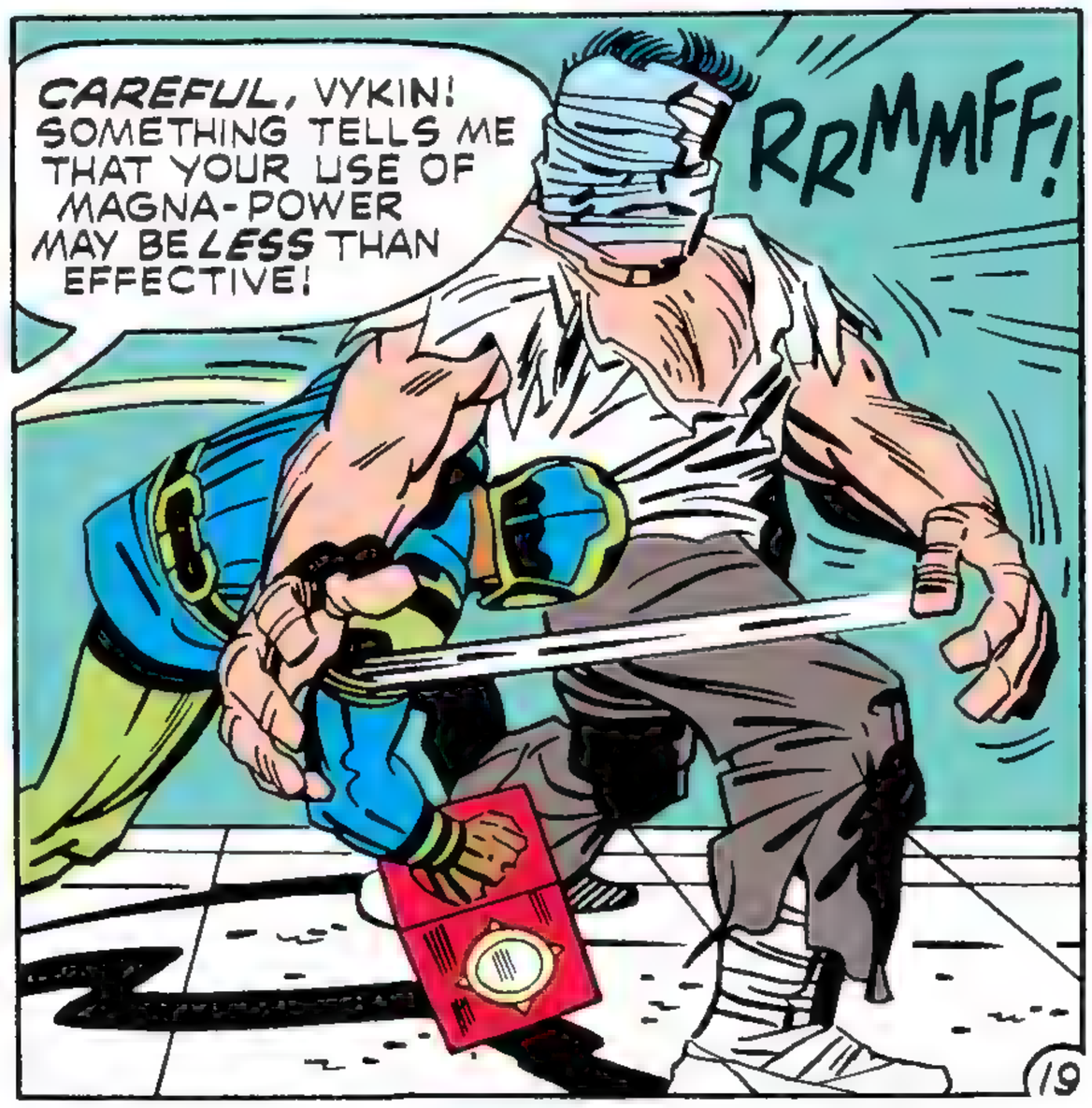


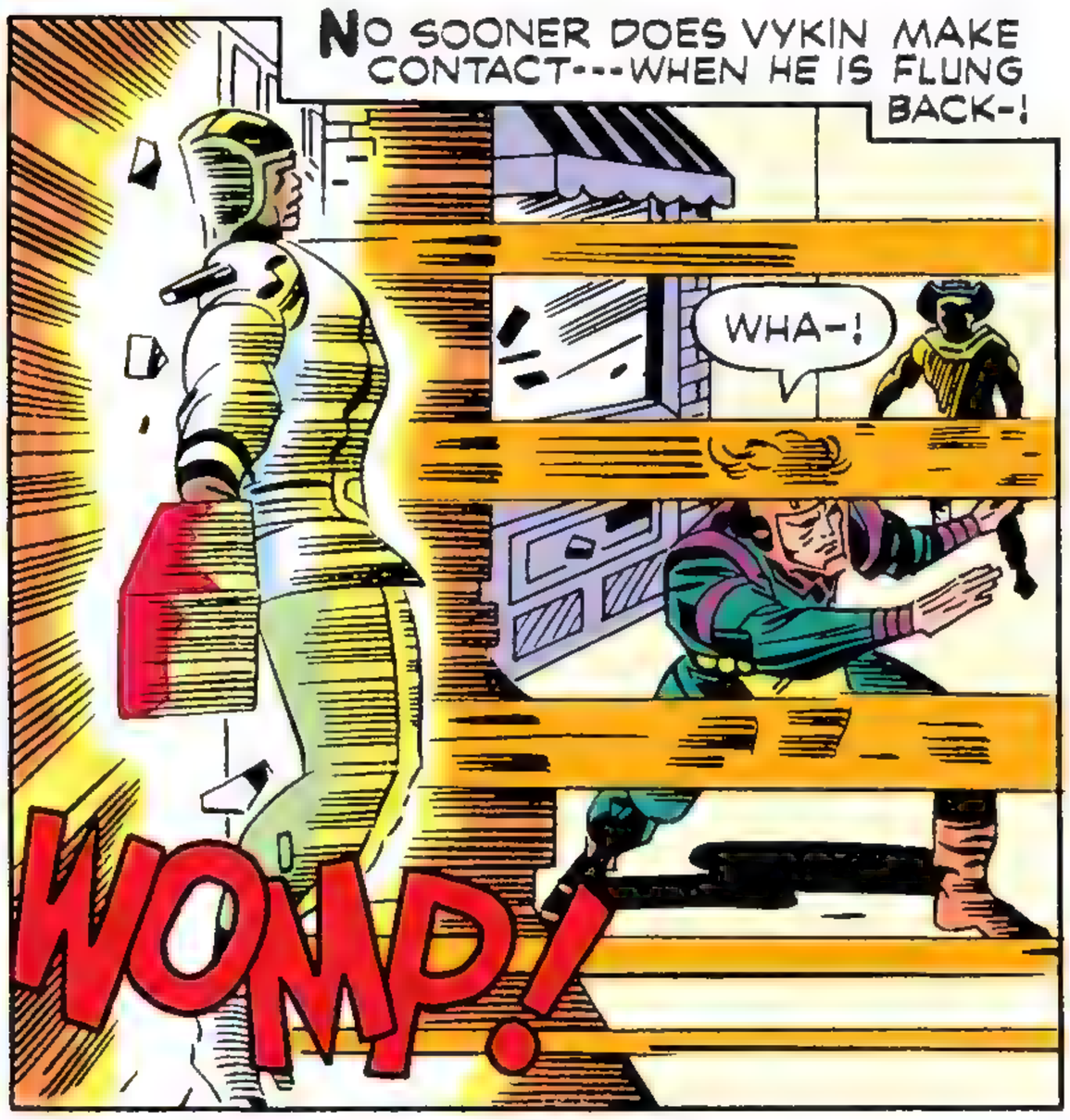

BUT AT THAT MOMENT, A GREAT BURST OF COSMIC ENERGY FLARES INTO EXISTANCE!! AND··· IN ITS NUCLEUS—
WE'RE PHASING INTO THE CENTER OF THE CITY!!
MOTHER BOX HAS HOMED IN ON OUR QUARRY!
HE CAN'T BE FAR!
THERE! SOME SORT OF DISTURBANCE AHEAD!
PING PING PING PING

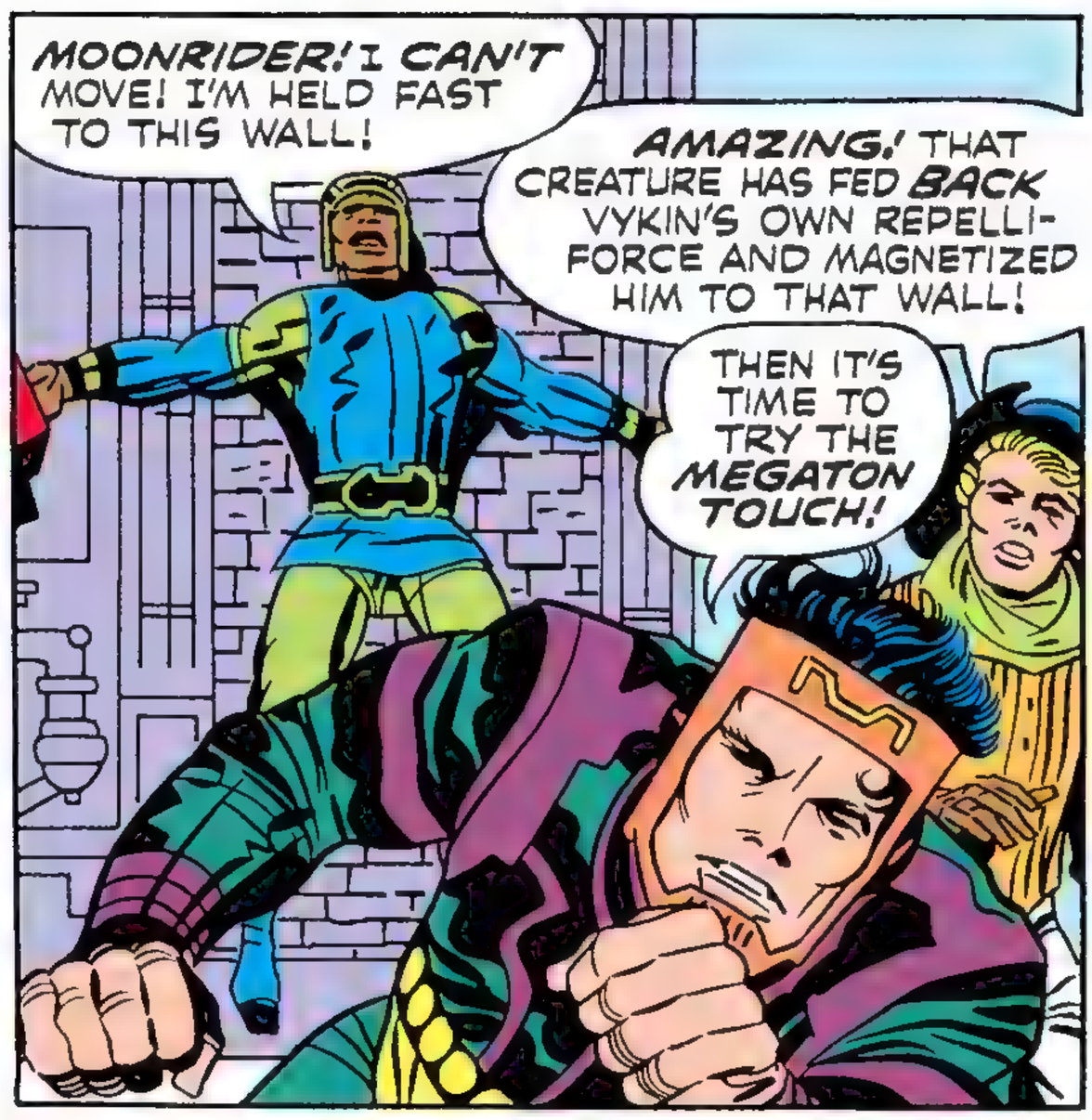

MOTHER BOX IS REACTING WITH INCREASED ACTIVITY!
WE MUST BE ON THE RIGHT TRACK!
A CINEMA HOUSE! WHAT A FIND!!
PING PING PING
ADMISSION PRICE

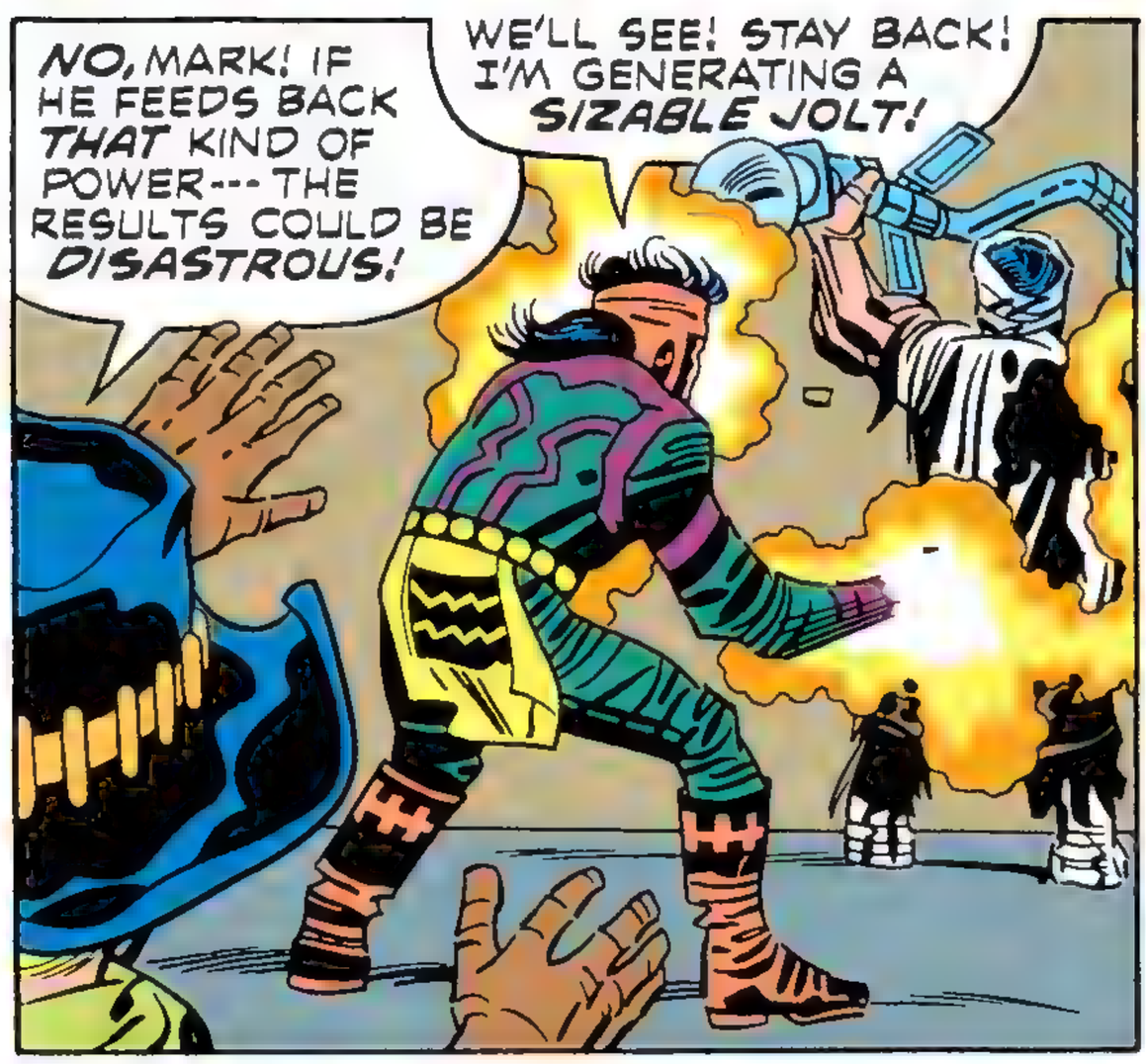

LOOK! THEY'RE OFFERING PRICELESS HORROR CLASSICS! MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF EARTH FILM ART!!
NOW PLAYING PLUS MIDNITE SHOW


MEANWHILE—!
PING! PING! PING! PING!
HERE'S OUR TARGET! HE'S GOT OUR BLUE CARTRIDGE!
BUT HE'S HARDLY THE IMAGE OF "DOC" GIDEON! HE LOOKS LIKE A MUCH LARGER PROBLEM!


CAREFUL, VYKIN! SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT YOUR USE OF MAGNA-POWER MAY BE LESS THAN EFFECTIVE!
RRMMFF!

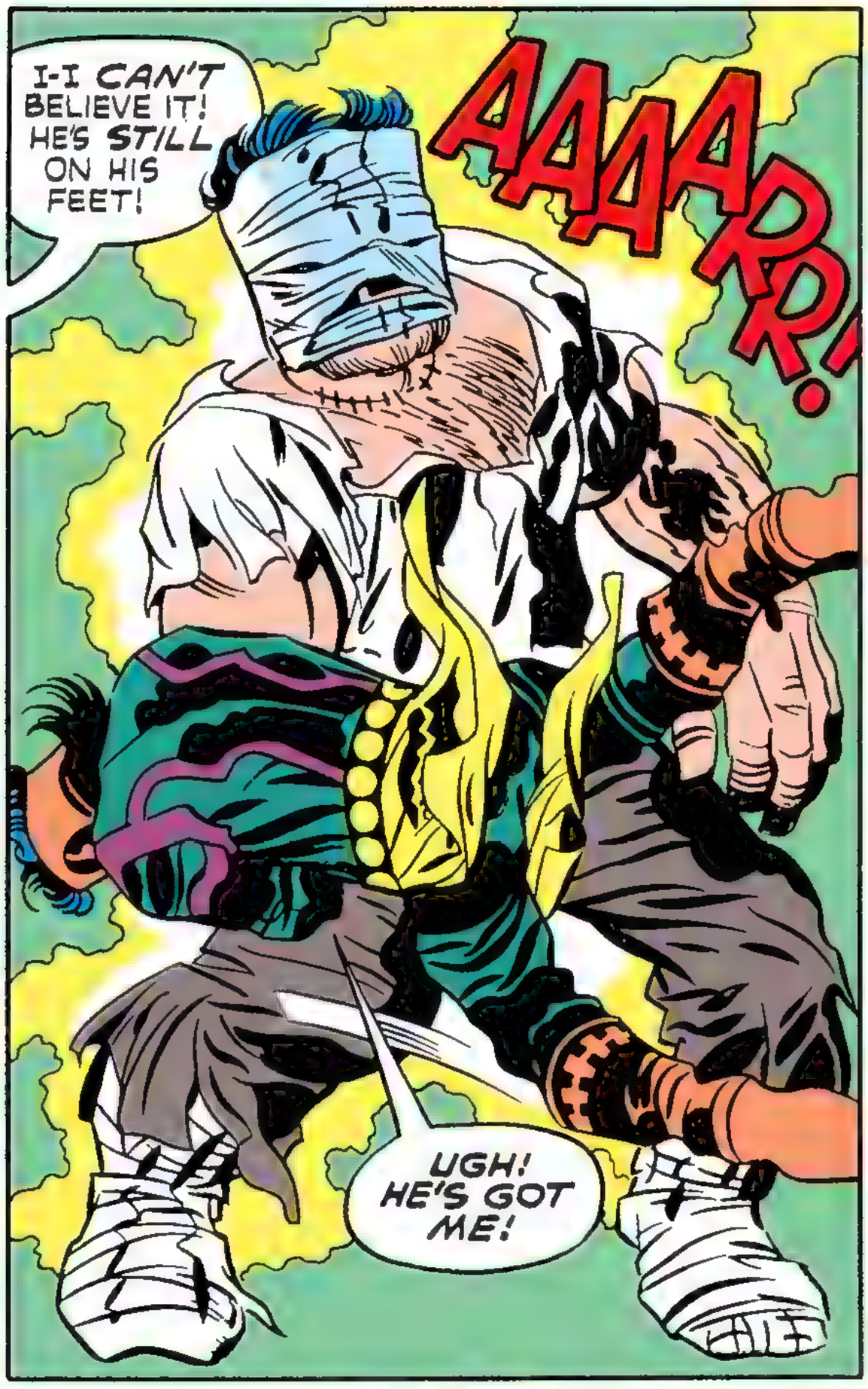

NO SOONER DOES VYKIN MAKE CONTACT---WHEN HE IS FLUNG BACK-!
WHA-!
WOMP!


MOONRIDER! I CAN'T MOVE! I'M HELD FAST TO THIS WALL!
AMAZING! THAT CREATURE HAS FED BACK VYKIN'S OWN REPELLI-FORCE AND MAGNETIZED HIM TO THAT WALL!
THEN IT'S TIME TO TRY THE MEGATON TOUCH!


NO, MARK! IF HE FEEDS BACK THAT KIND OF POWER--- THE RESULTS COULD BE DISASTROUS!
WE'LL SEE! STAY BACK! I'M GENERATING A SIZABLE JOLT!

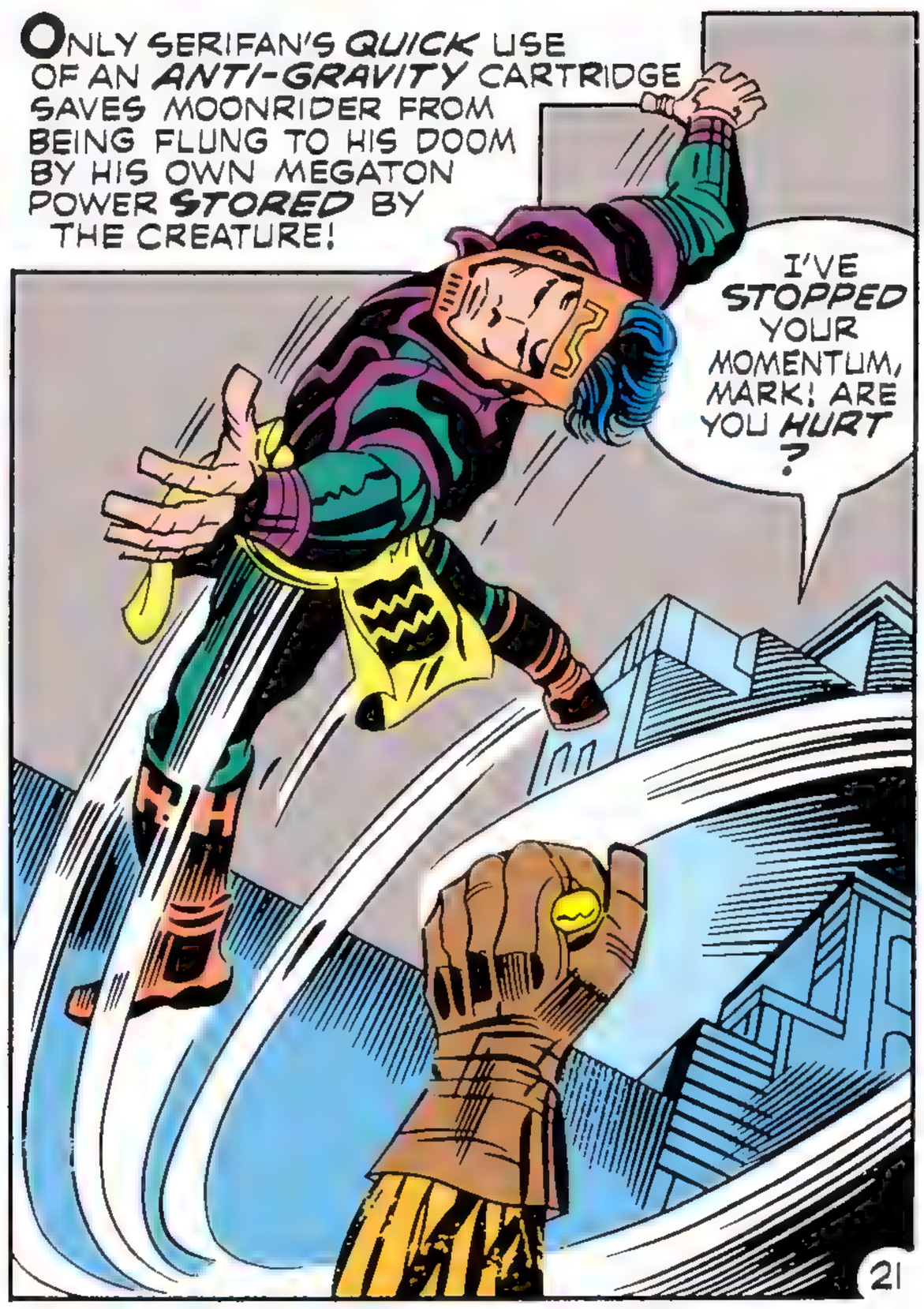
FORGIVE ME!---BUT I MUST REGAIN THAT CARTRIDGE!

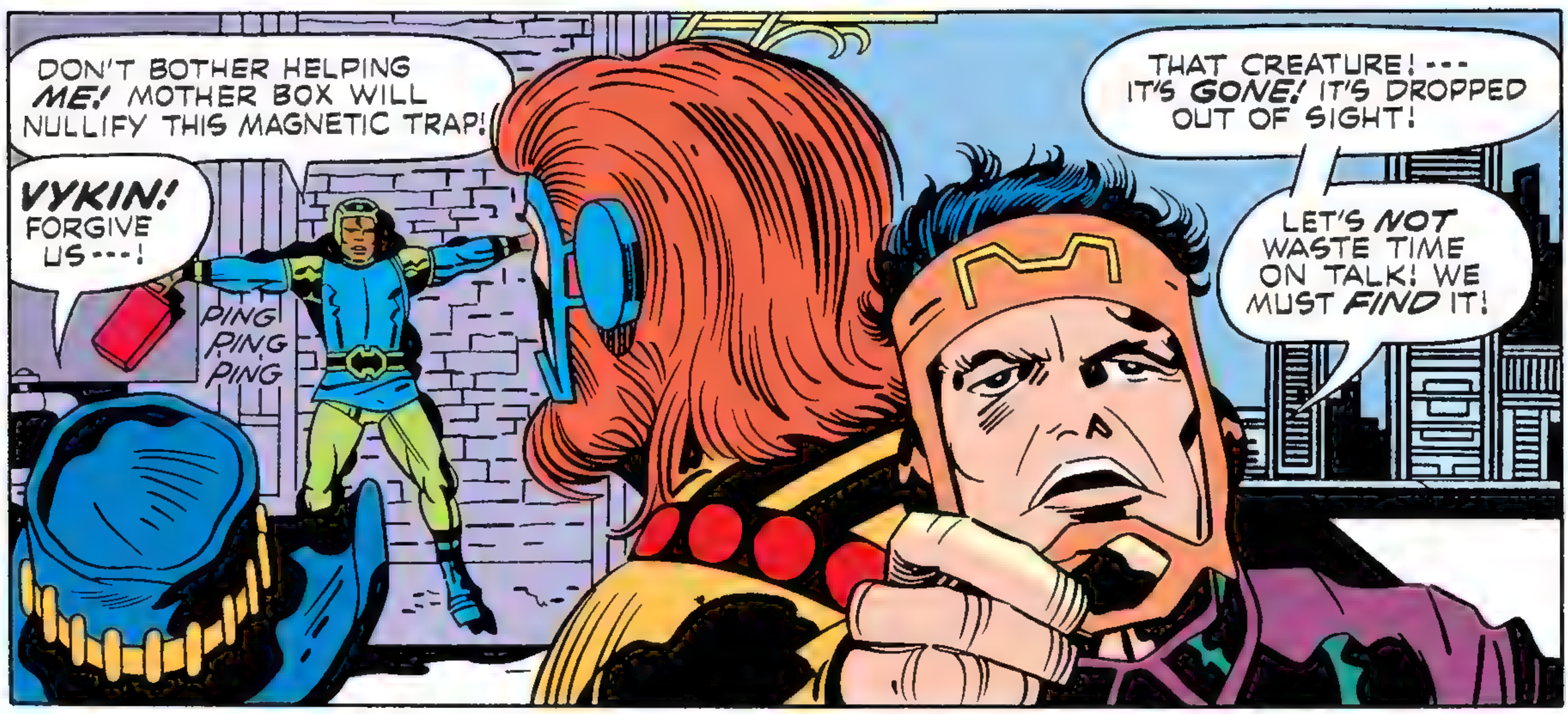
WAABOOM!
20


I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S STILL ON HIS FEET!
AAAARR!
UGH! HE'S GOT ME!

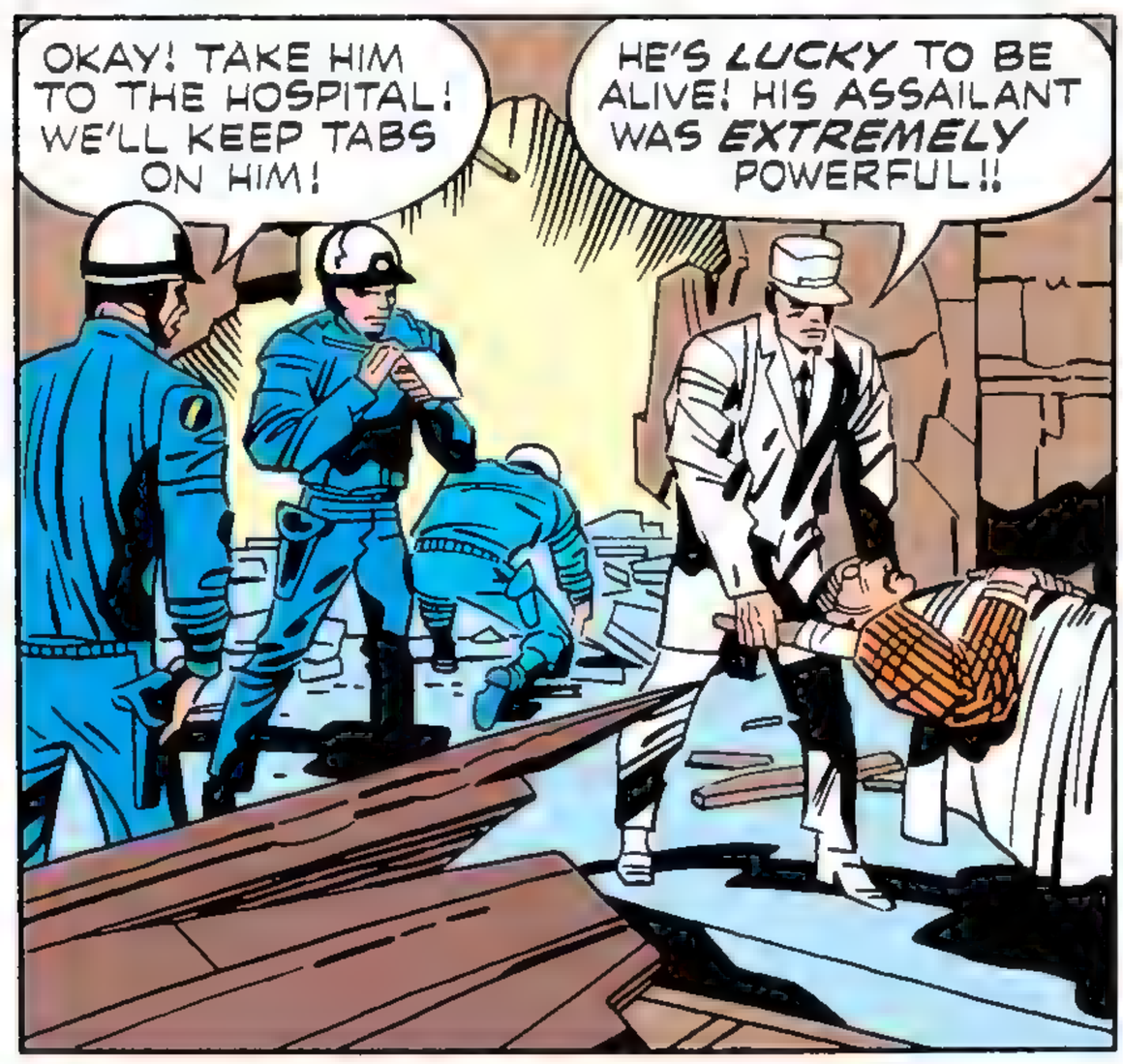
LIKE A CURIOUS ANIMAL, THE CREATURE DRAWS MOONRIDER CLOSE FOR INSPECTION!
RRMMFF! MUUFFF!!!
THERE'S A SMALL LUMP UNDER THAT COVERING ABOUT HIS FOREHEAD! THE BLUE CARTRIDGE HAS BEEN TAPED TO HIS SKULL!

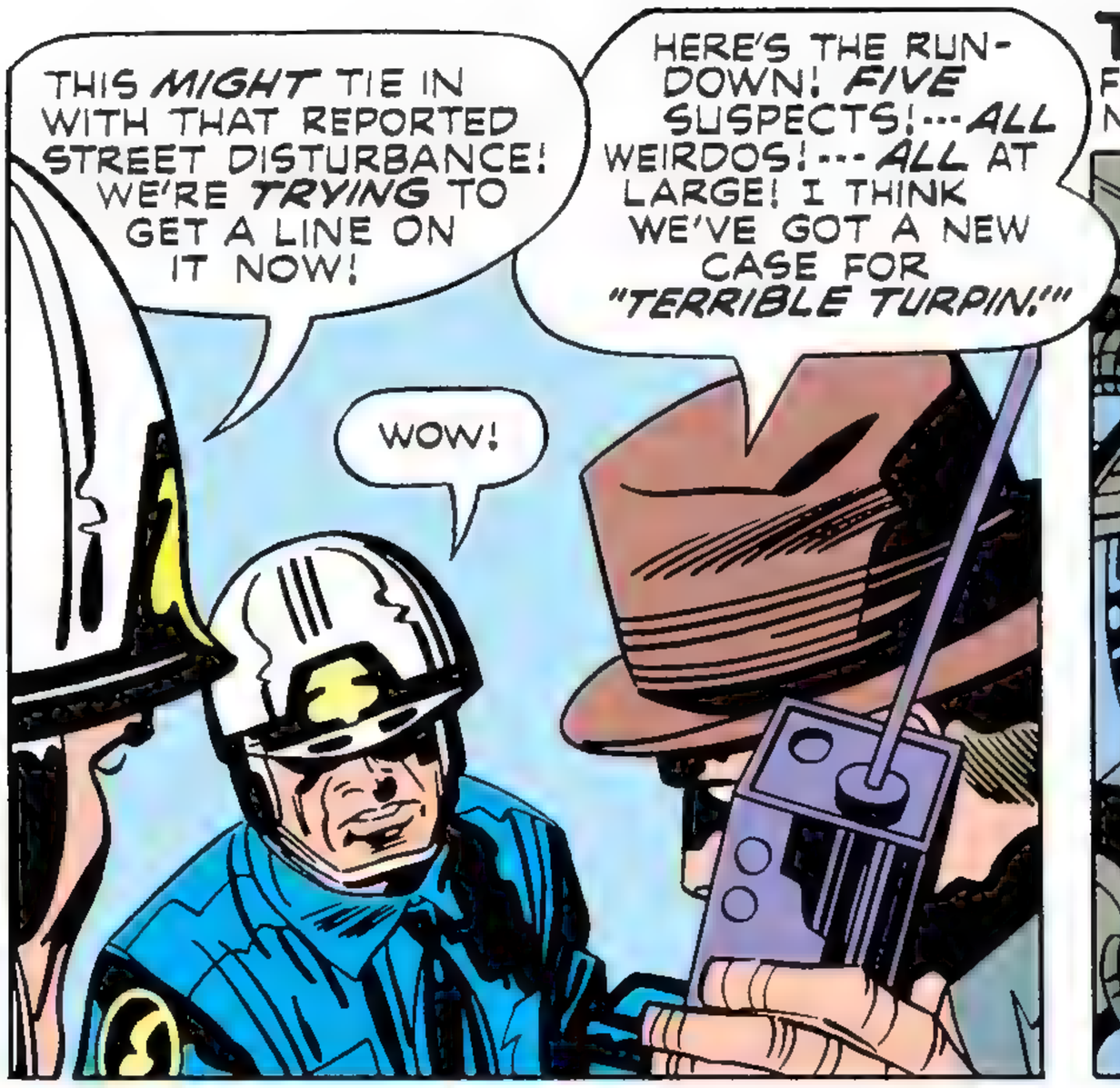
BUT BEFORE MARK CAN ACT TO RECOVER THE CARTRIDGE-!
BARROOM!

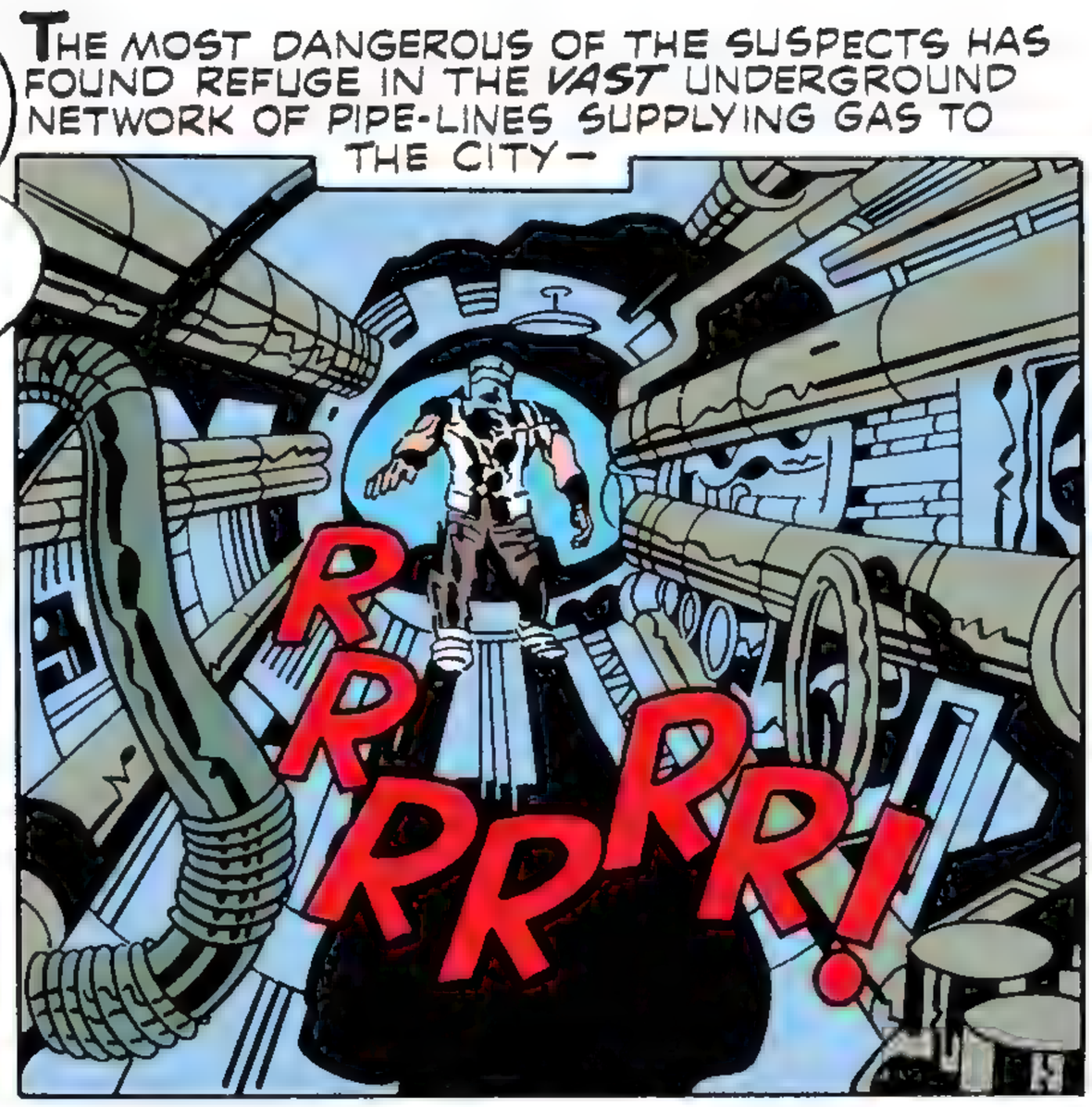

ONLY SERIFAN'S QUICK USE OF AN ANTI-GRAVITY CARTRIDGE SAVES MOONRIDER FROM BEING FLUNG TO HIS DOOM BY HIS OWN MEGATON POWER STORED BY THE CREATURE!
I'VE STOPPED YOUR MOMENTUM, MARK! ARE YOU HURT?
21

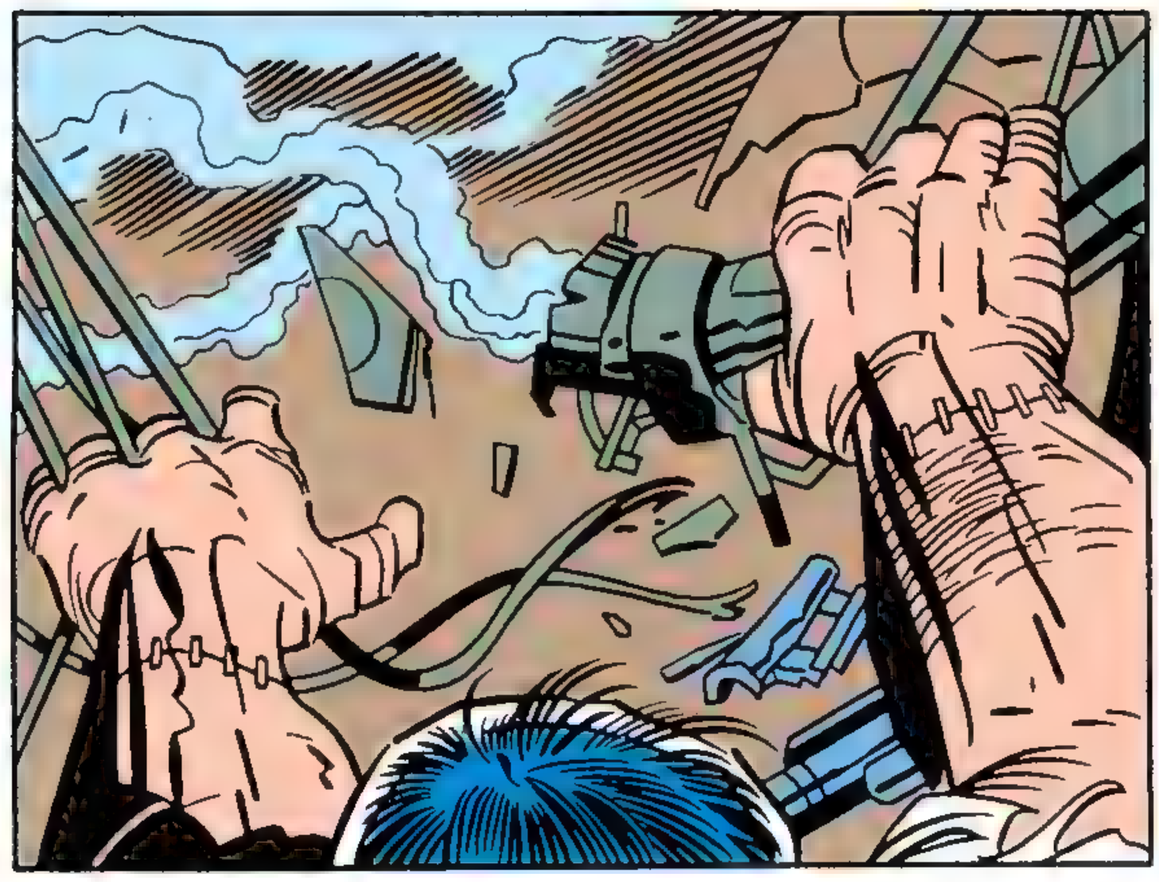


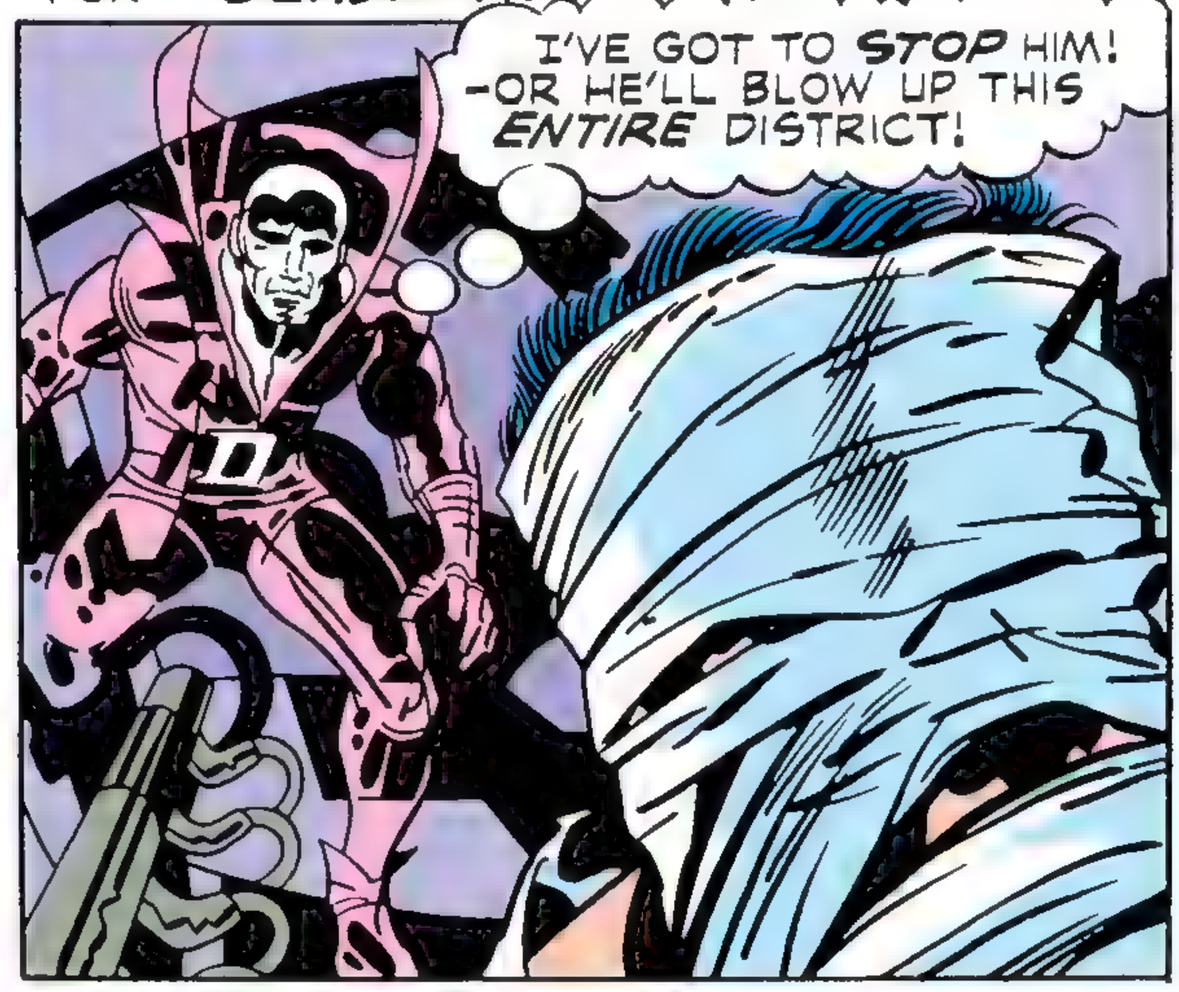
BACK AT THE CITY MORGUE, "DOC" GIDEON'S AMBITIONS HAVE COME TO A SORRY IMPASSE!!

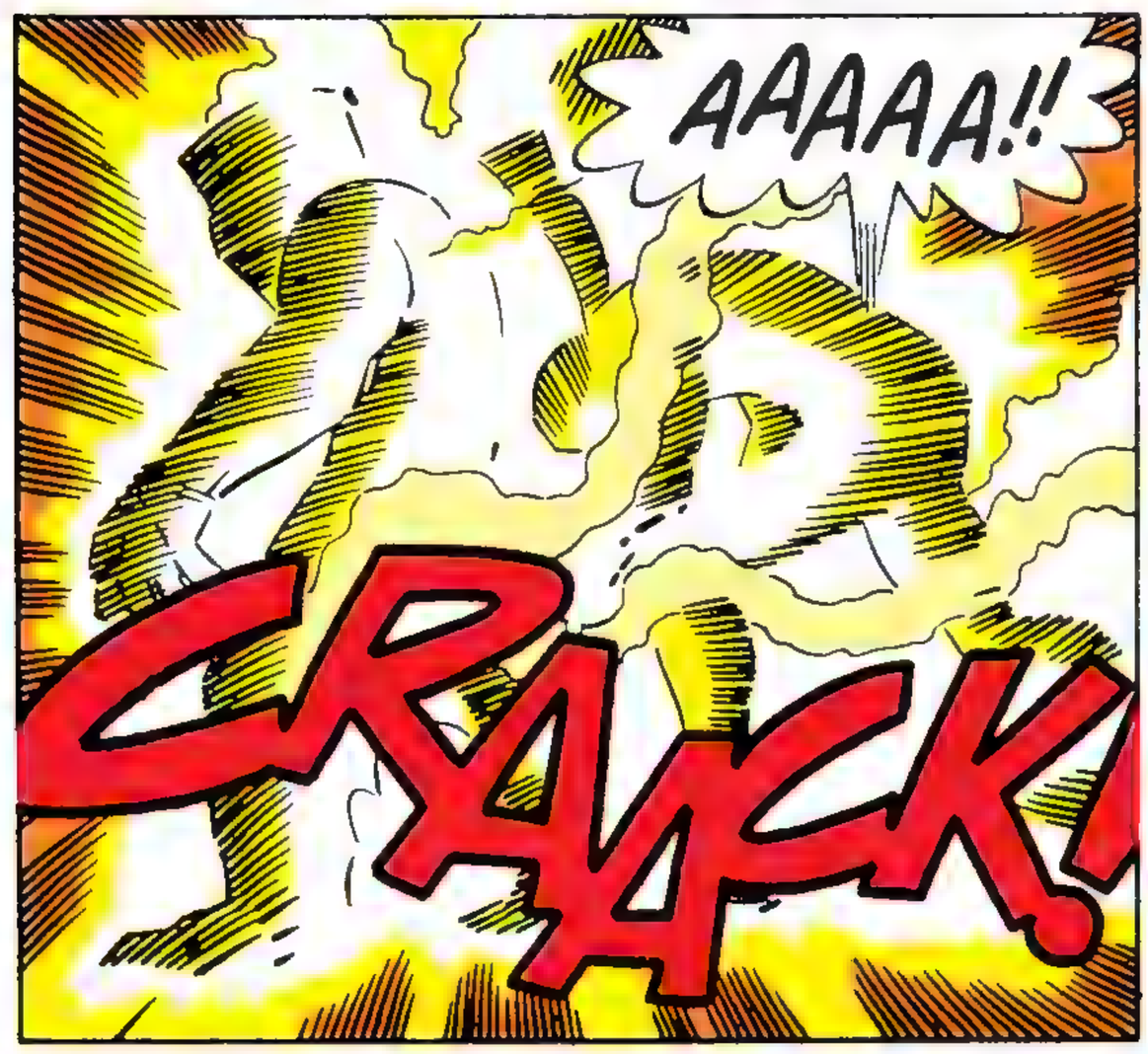


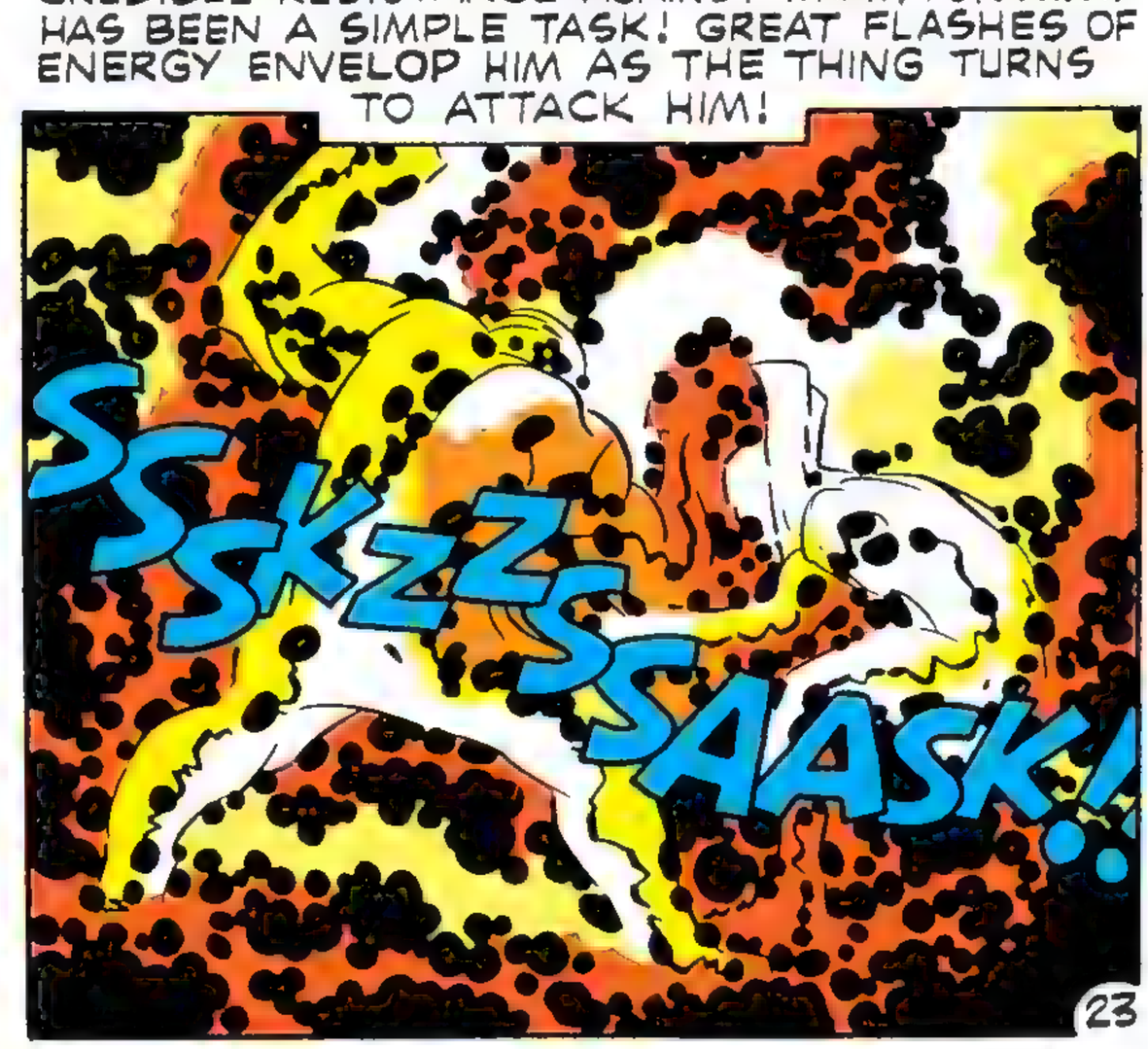

THIS MIGHT TIE IN WITH THAT REPORTED STREET DISTURBANCE! WE'RE TRYING TO GET A LINE ON IT NOW!
HERE'S THE RUN-DOWN! FIVE SUSPECTS!---ALL WEIRDOS!---ALL AT LARGE! I THINK WE'VE GOT A NEW CASE FOR "TERRIBLE TURPIN!"
WOW!

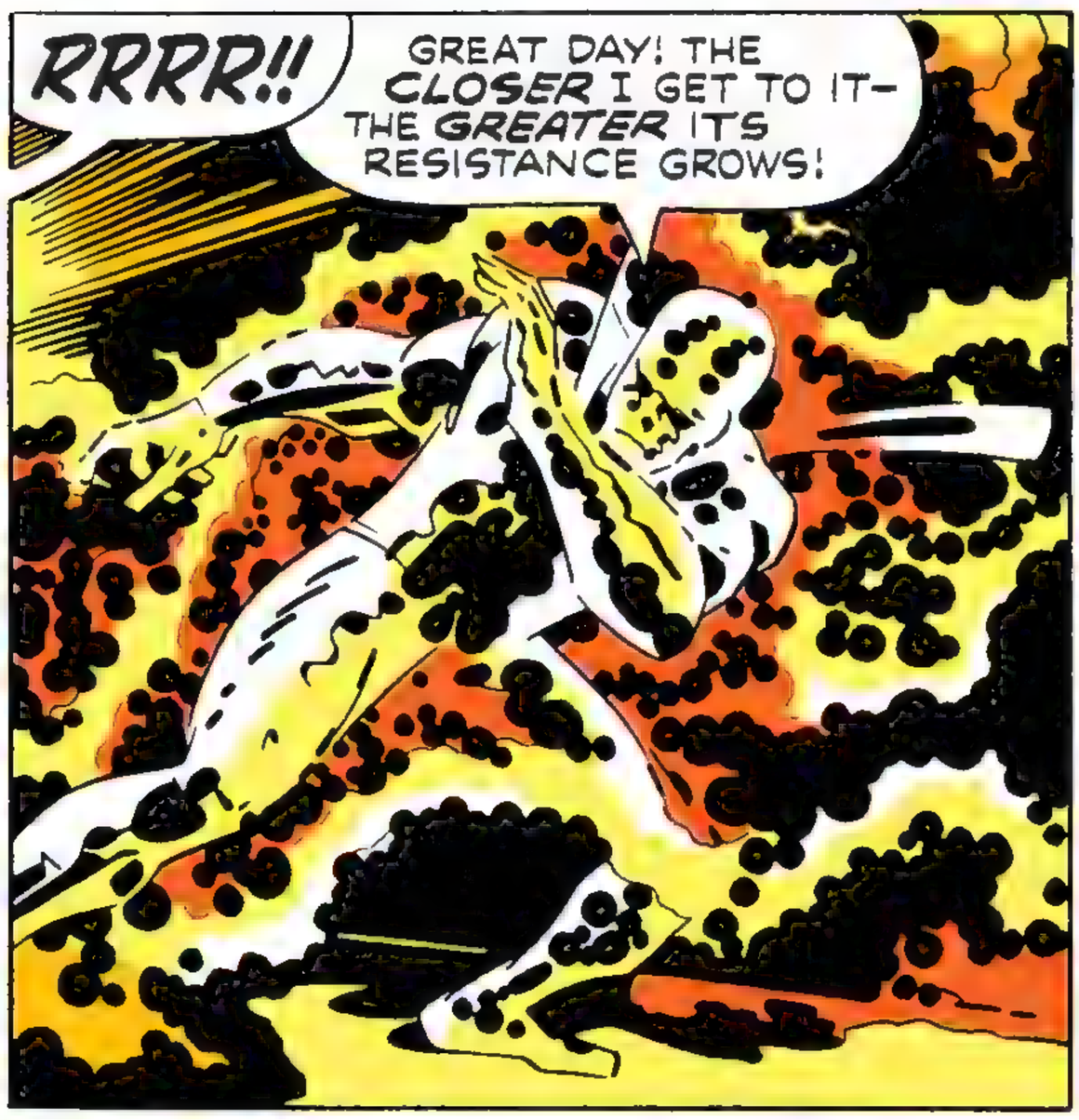

THE MOST DANGEROUS OF THE SUSPECTS HAS FOUND REFUGE IN THE VAST UNDERGROUND NETWORK OF PIPE-LINES SUPPLYING GAS TO THE CITY—
RRRRR!

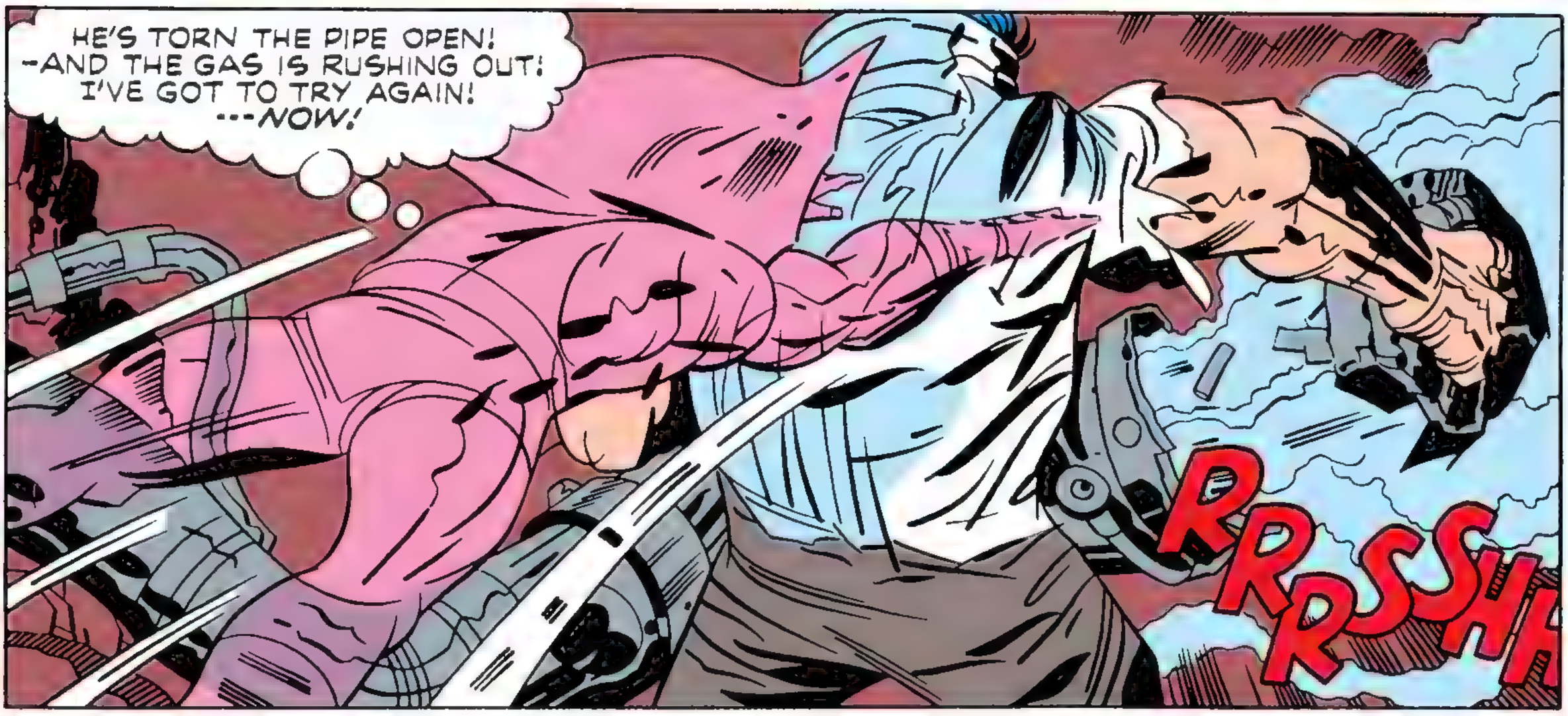

THE CREATURE RESPONDS ONLY TO RUDIMENTARY FEELINGS! IT SMASHES EVERYTHING WHICH BLOCKS ITS PATH! CABLES RIP! PIPES CRACK! ---AND GAS BEGINS TO ESCAPE!


BUT THERE IS SOMEONE STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR---DEADMAN!
I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM! -OR HE'LL BLOW UP THIS ENTIRE DISTRICT!

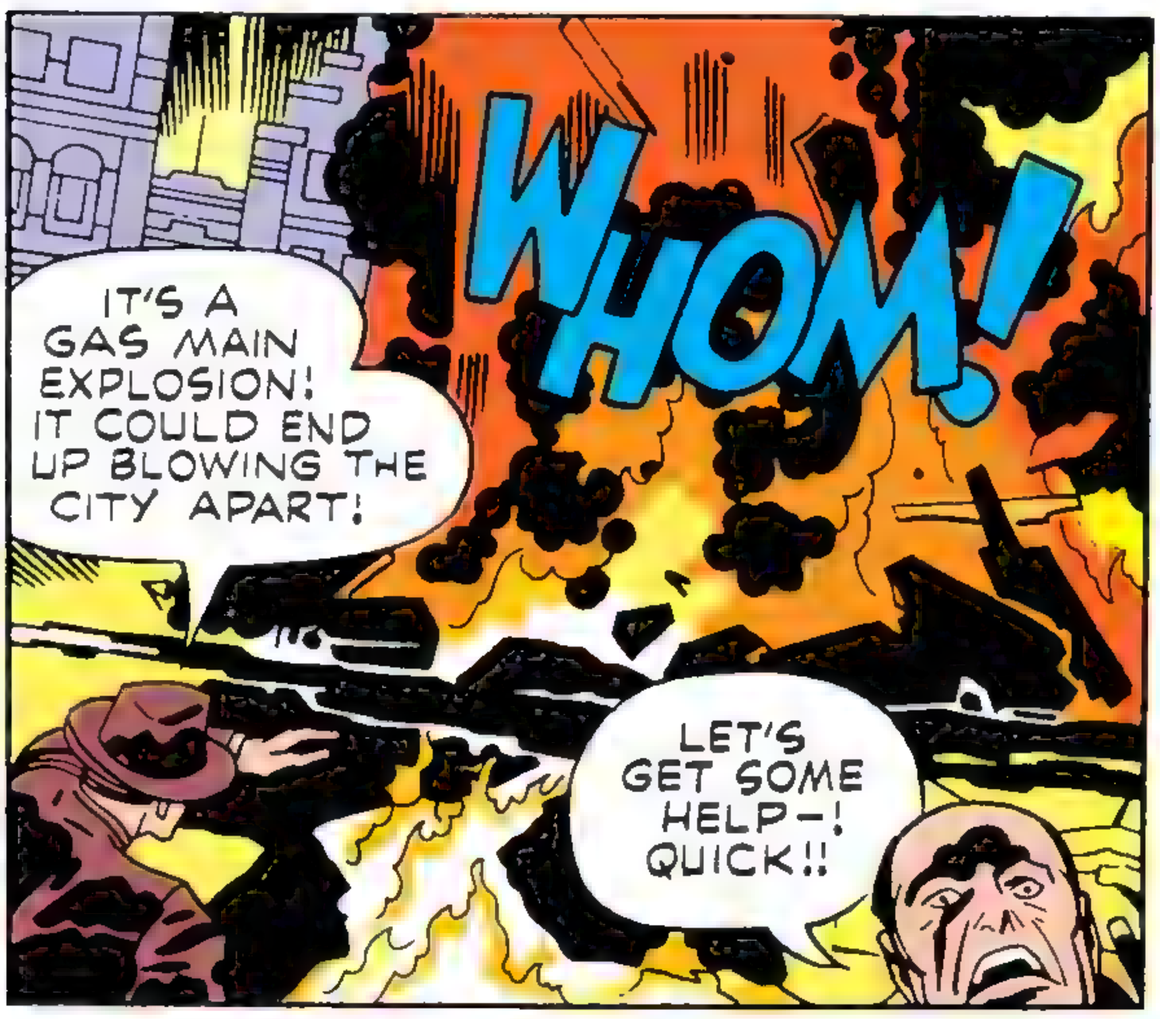

AS DEADMAN ATTEMPTS TO "TAKE OVER" THE BODY OF GIDEON'S MONSTER—!!!
AAAAA!!
CRAAACK!


FOR THE SECOND TIME, DEADMAN MEETS INCREDIBLE RESISTANCE AGAINST WHAT, FOR HIM, HAS BEEN A SIMPLE TASK! GREAT FLASHES OF ENERGY ENVELOP HIM AS THE THING TURNS TO ATTACK HIM!
SSSSKZZSSSAASK!
23

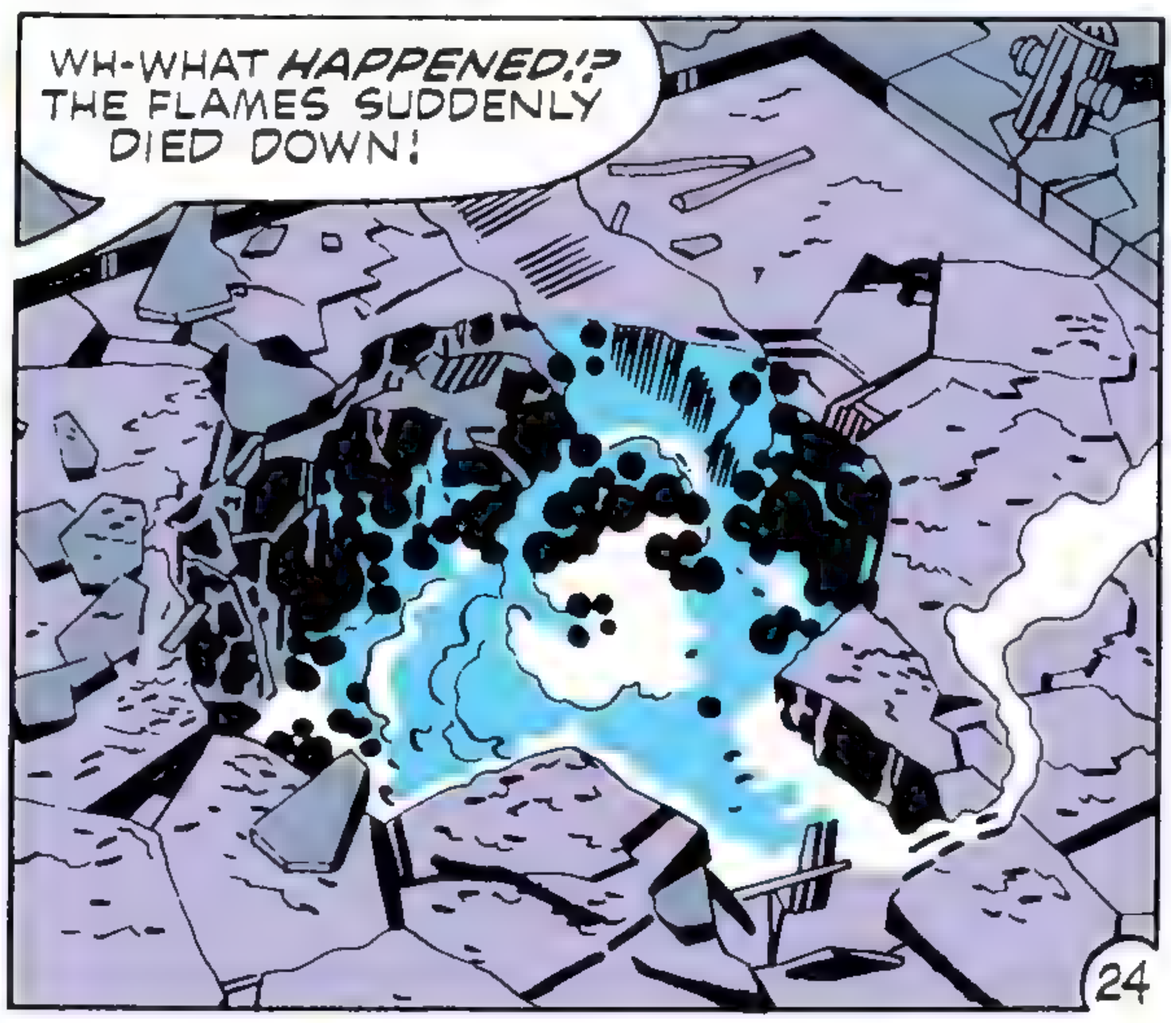




AT THAT MOMENT, THE GAS IGNITES!---AND THE ERUPTION THAT FOLLOWS BLASTS INTO THE STREETS ABOVE!!



BUT THE DISASTER *NEVER* COMES! INSTEAD THE ENSUING BLASTS ARE *INSTANTANEOUSLY* AND *MYSTERIOUSLY* SNUFFED OUT!!

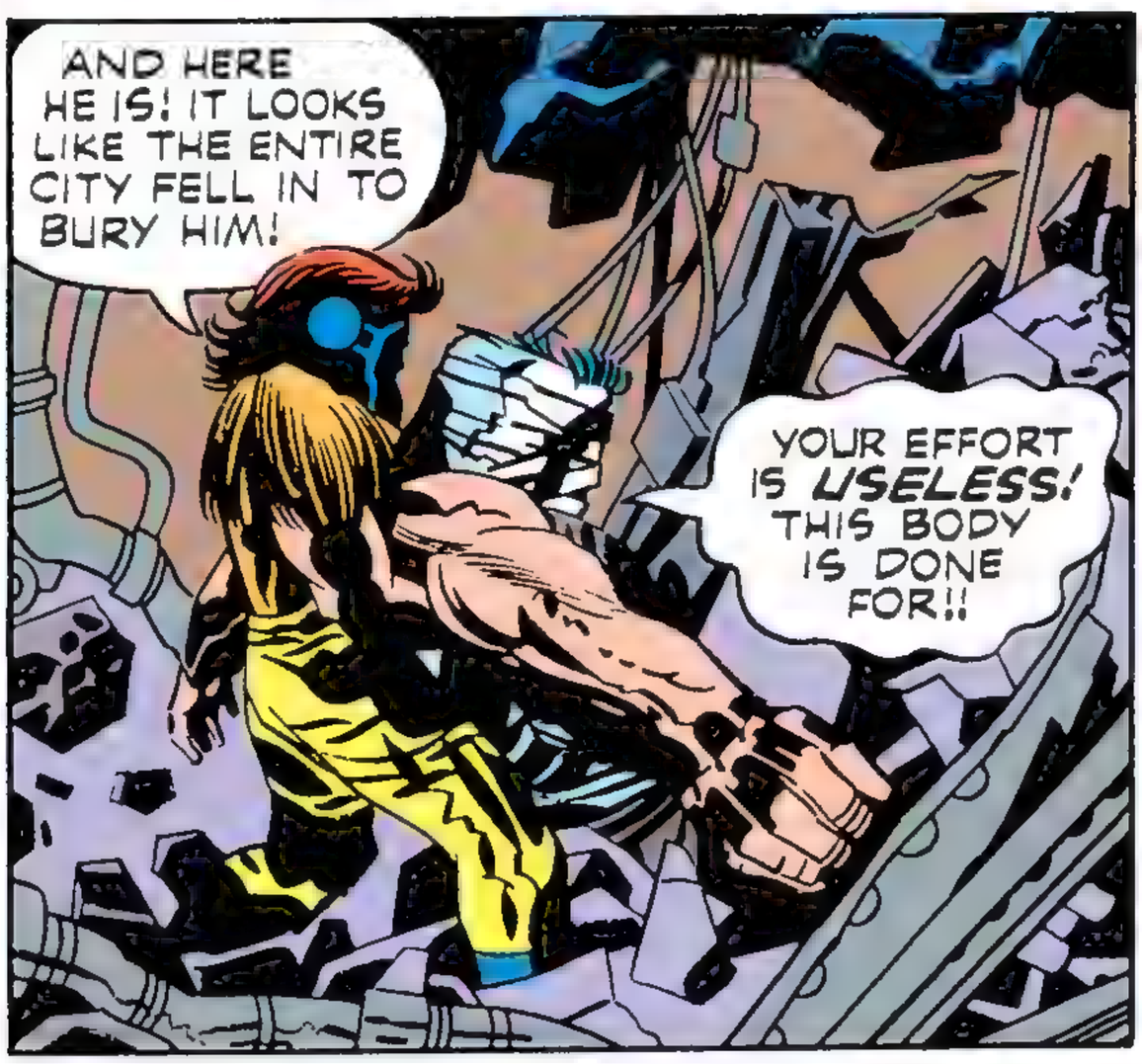


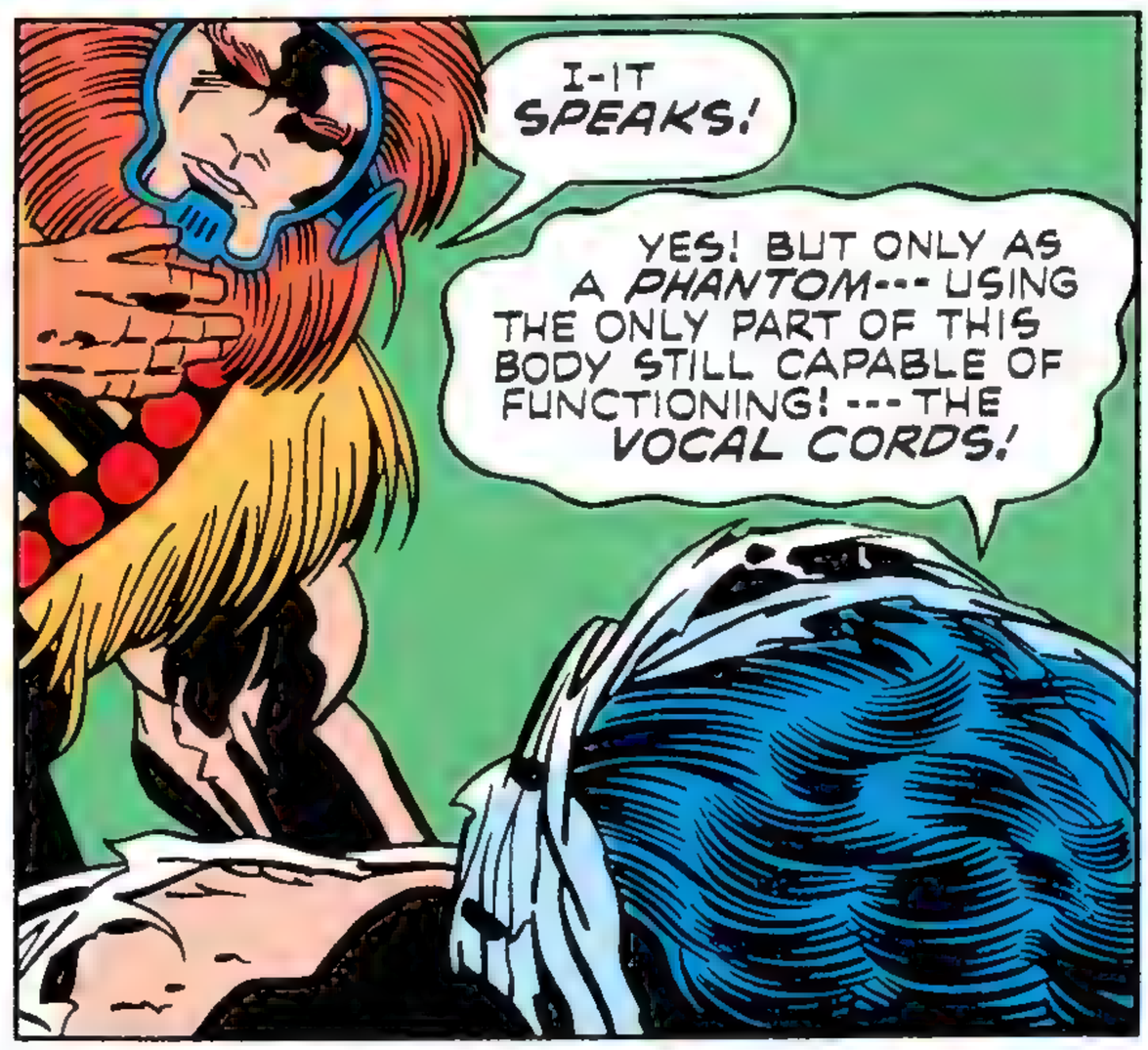
AND DOWN BELOW---

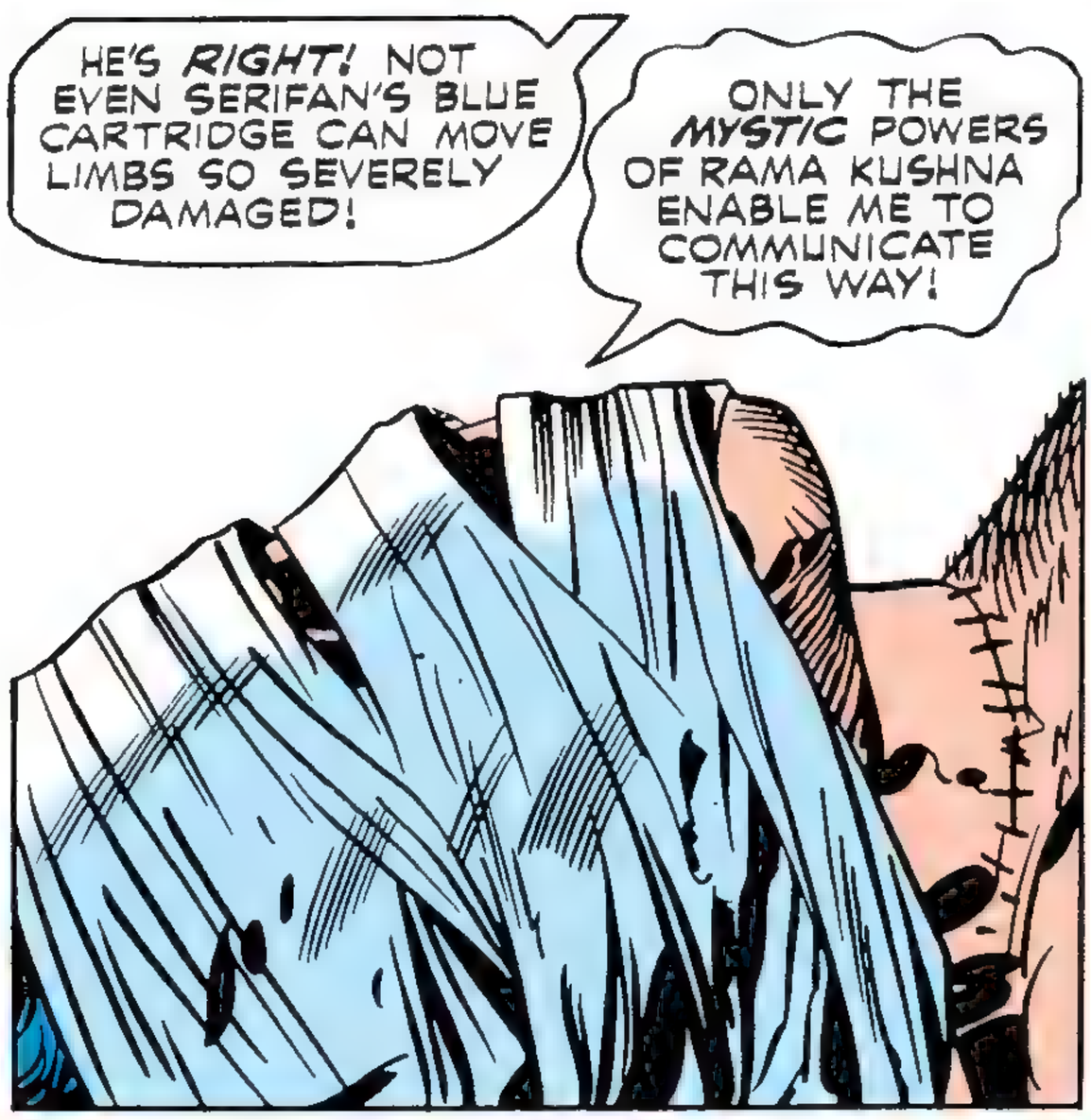
WHAT A MESS! WHO'D HAVE GUESSED THE THING WOULD TAKE A *DETOUR* INTO AN OPEN MAN-HOLE---TO DO *THIS*-!!

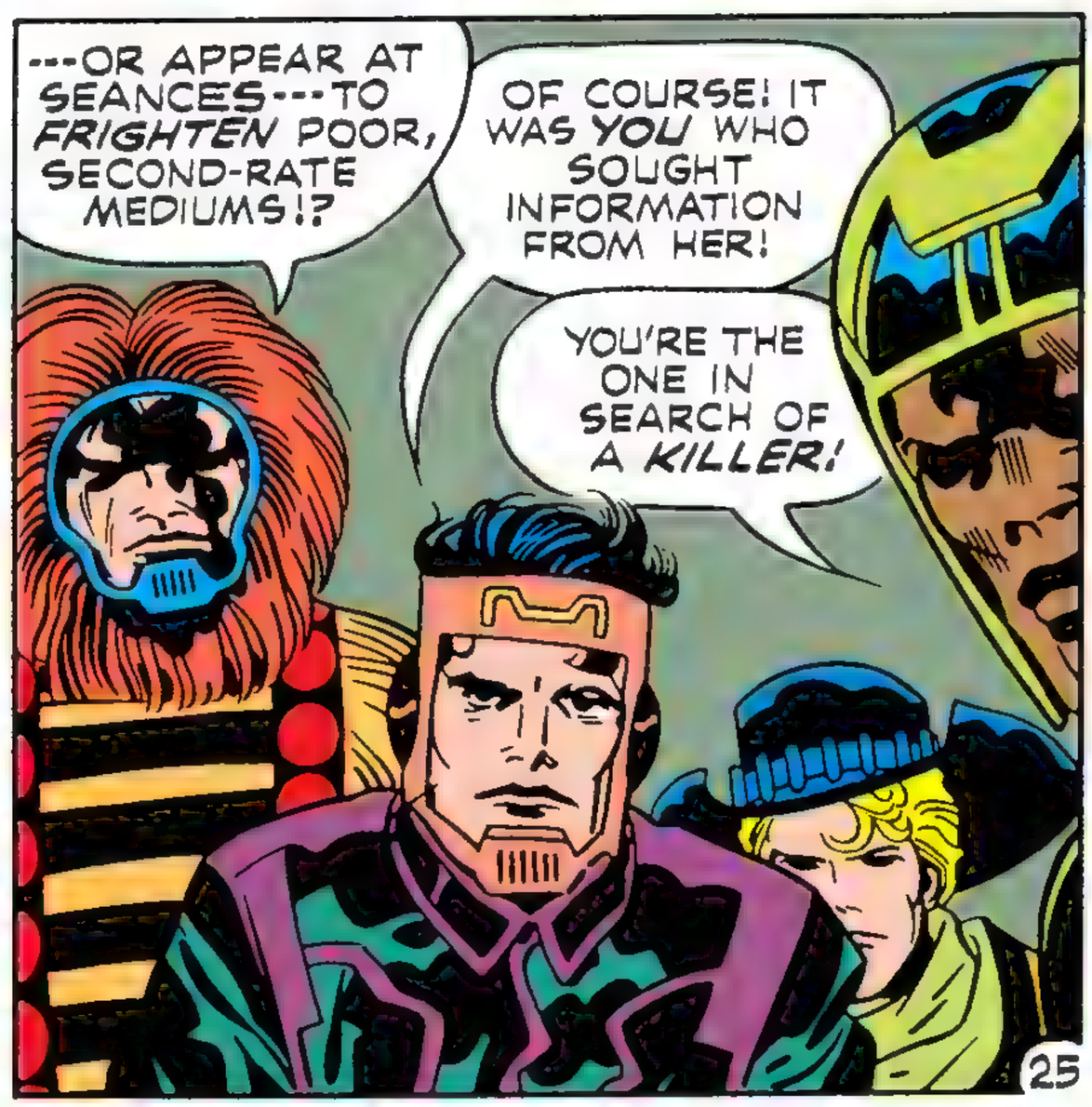
I'VE *CAPPED* THE LEAKING GAS-LINE WITH *SOLID STATE ENERGY!* THIS NIGHT'S BEEN A *BUSY* ONE FOR MY COSMIC CARTRIDGES!

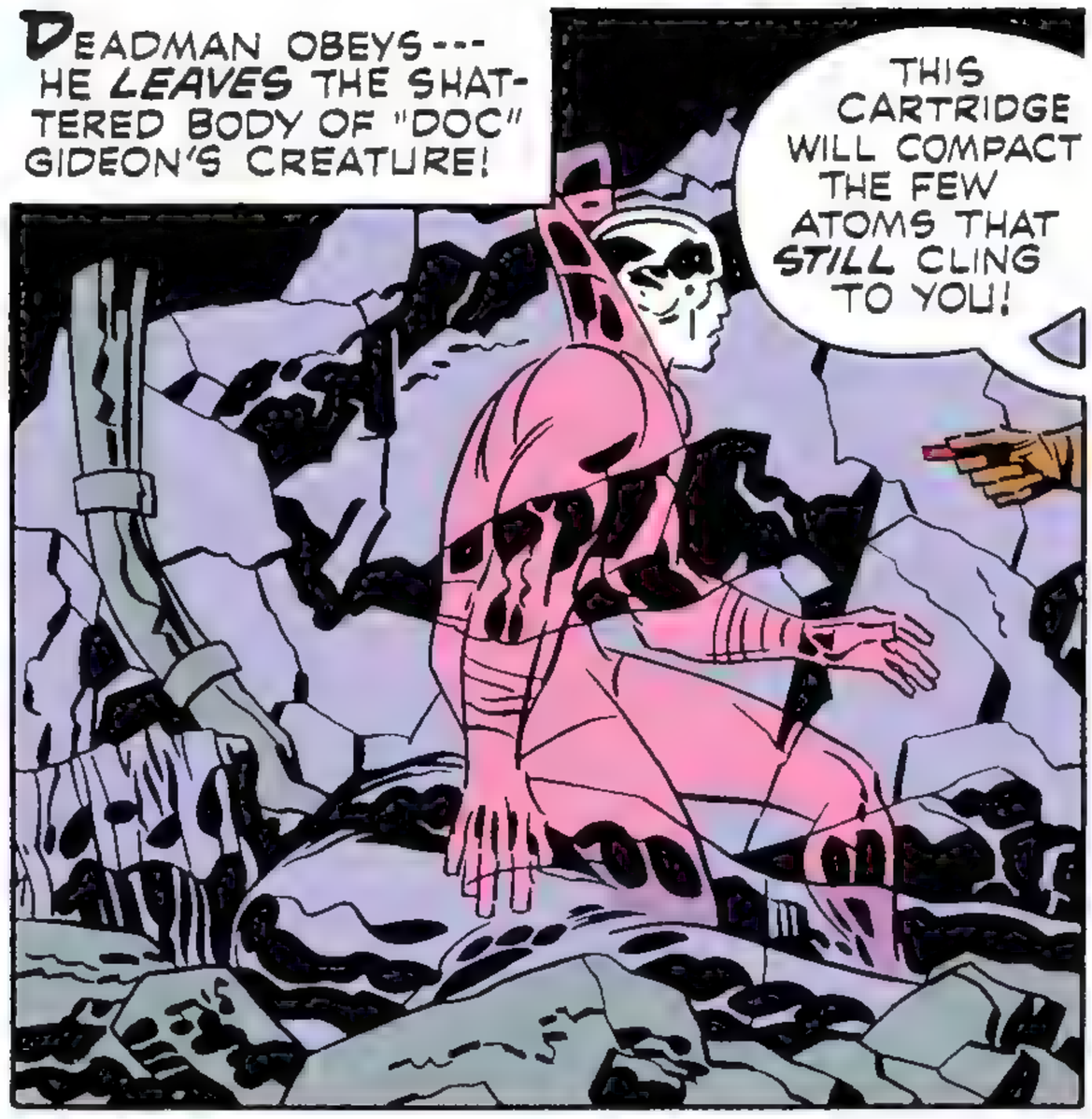
AND *MOTHER BOX!* SHE TRACKED OUR QUARRY HERE!

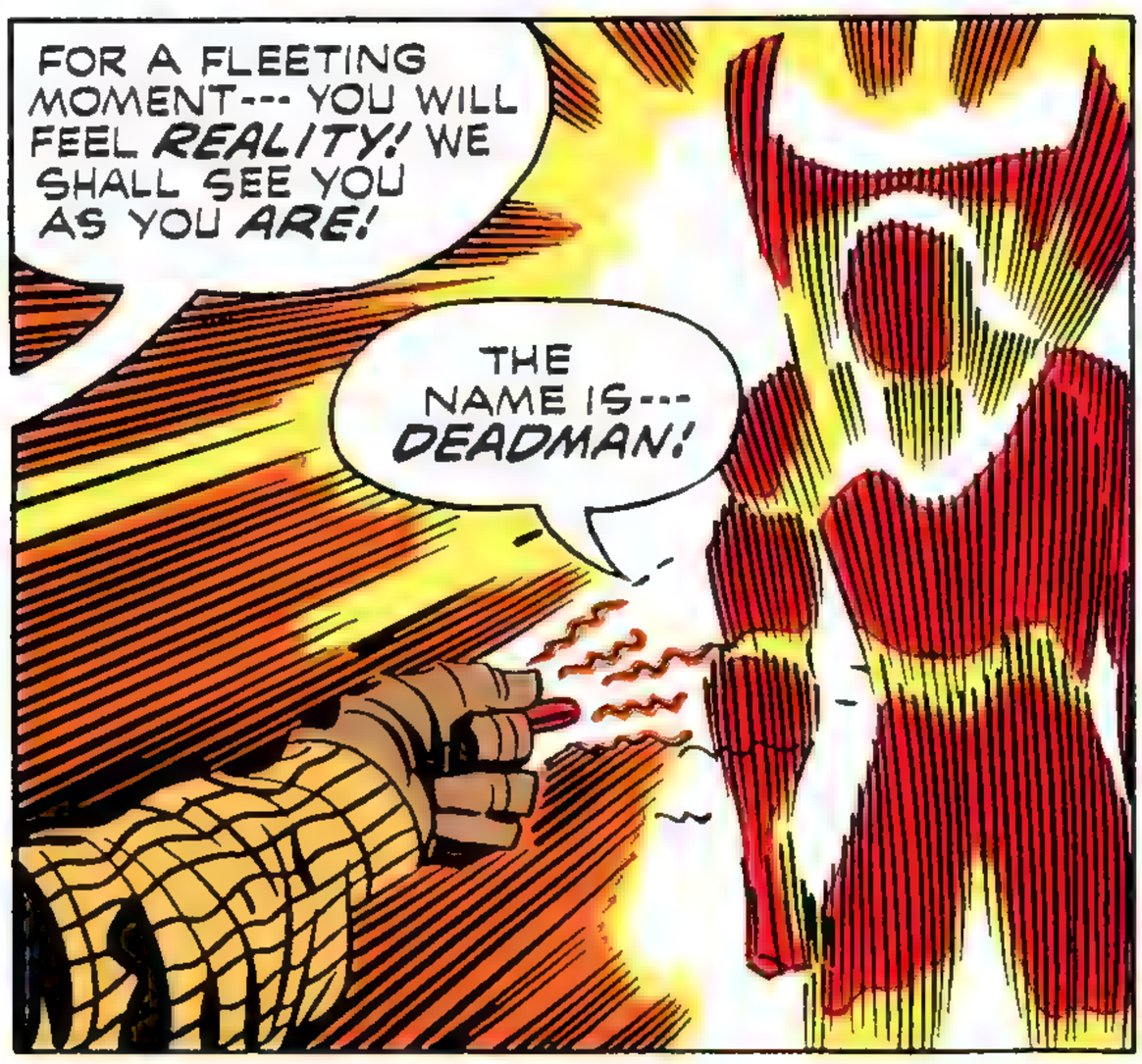












2 BIG THINGS TO COME!

DEADMAN WILL HAVE HIS NEW BODY! BUT HIS FIRST LEAD TO HIS KILLER WILL ASTOUND BOTH YOU AND HIS FRIENDS-!

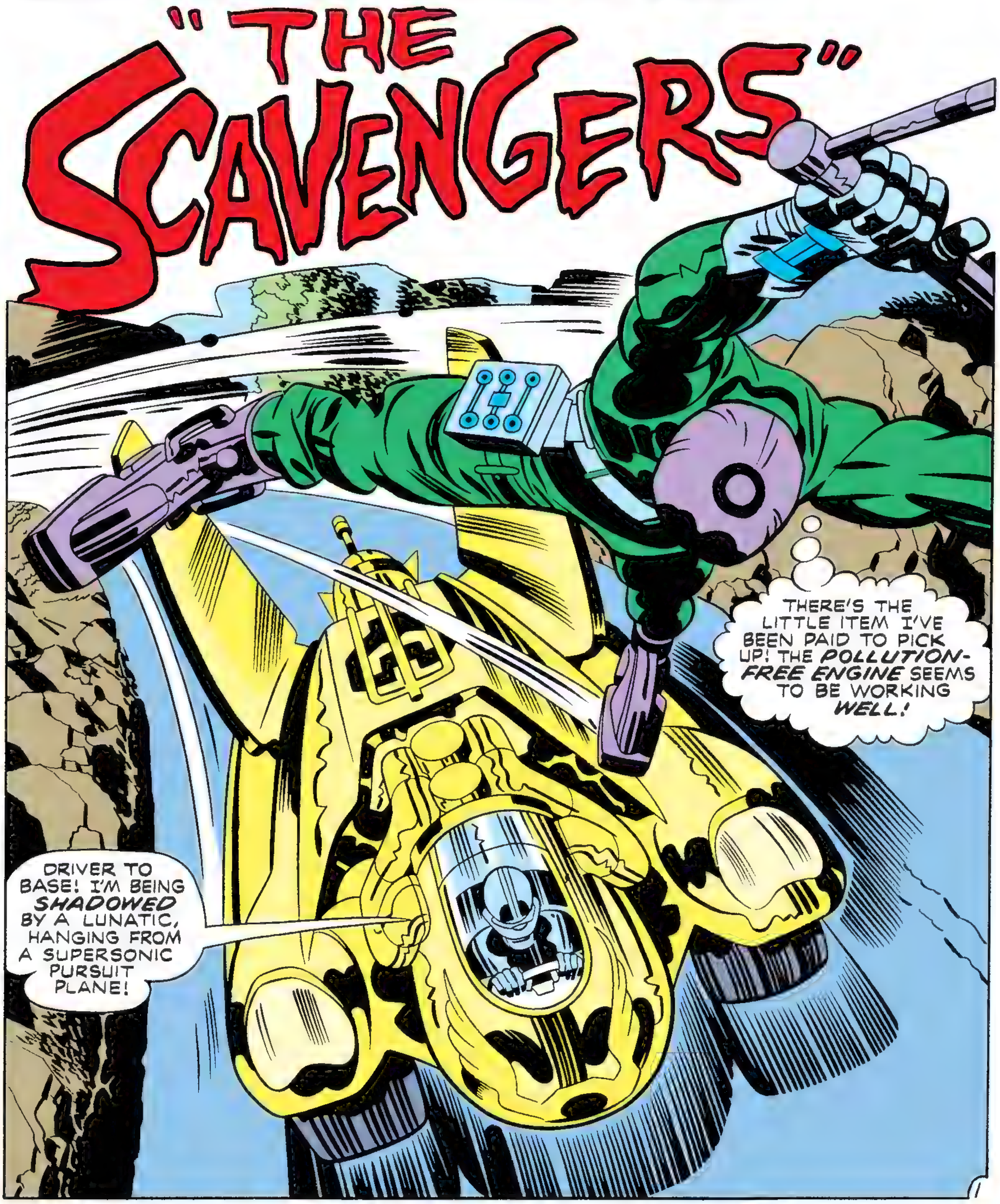
DON'T MISS- THE SCAVENGERS!

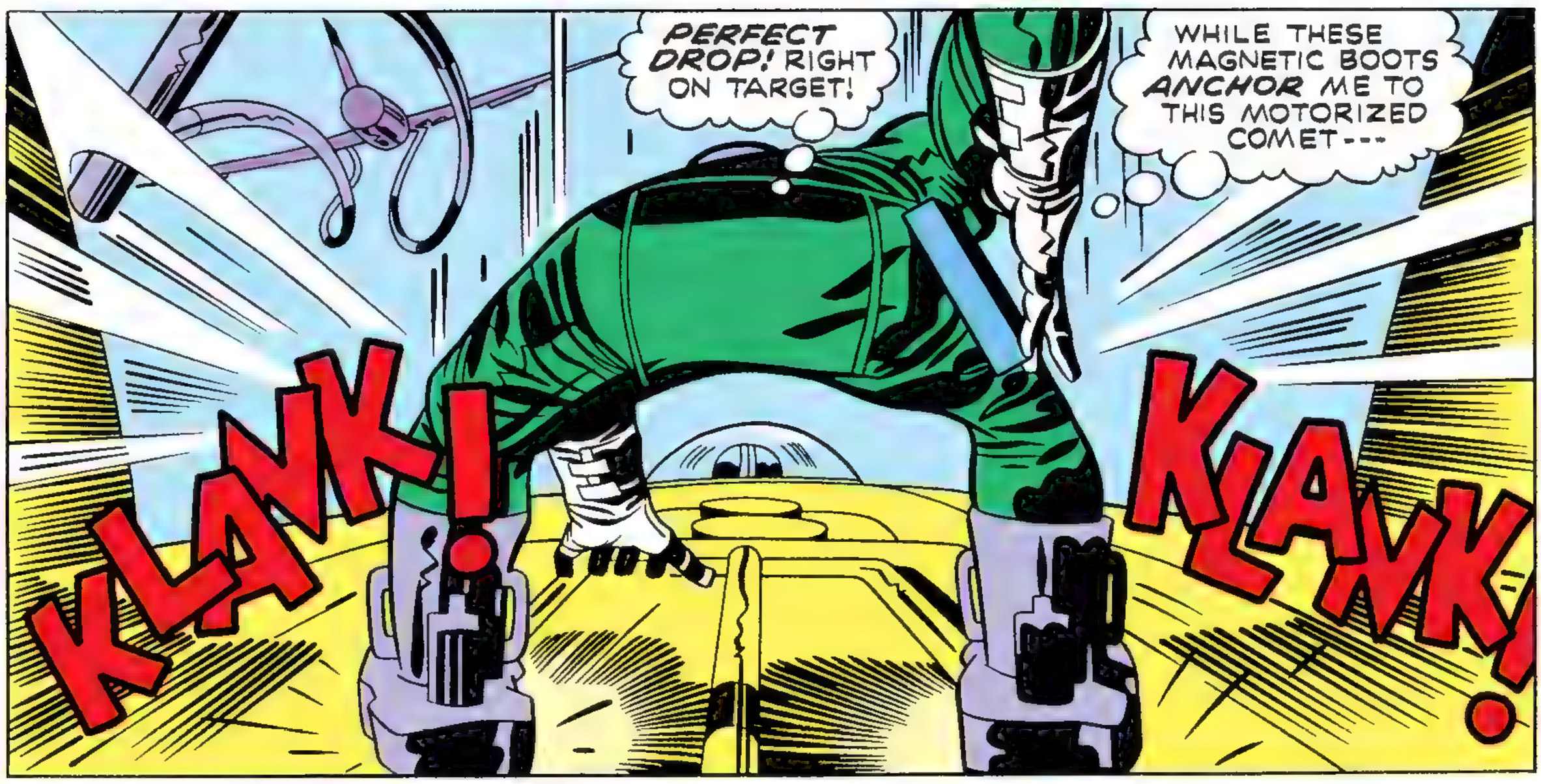
ALSO AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A DIABOLICAL NEW MACHINATION FROM THE KIRBY "SCREAM-MACHINE!" LOOK FOR IT!---ESPECIALLY IN THE DARK OF THE MOON!

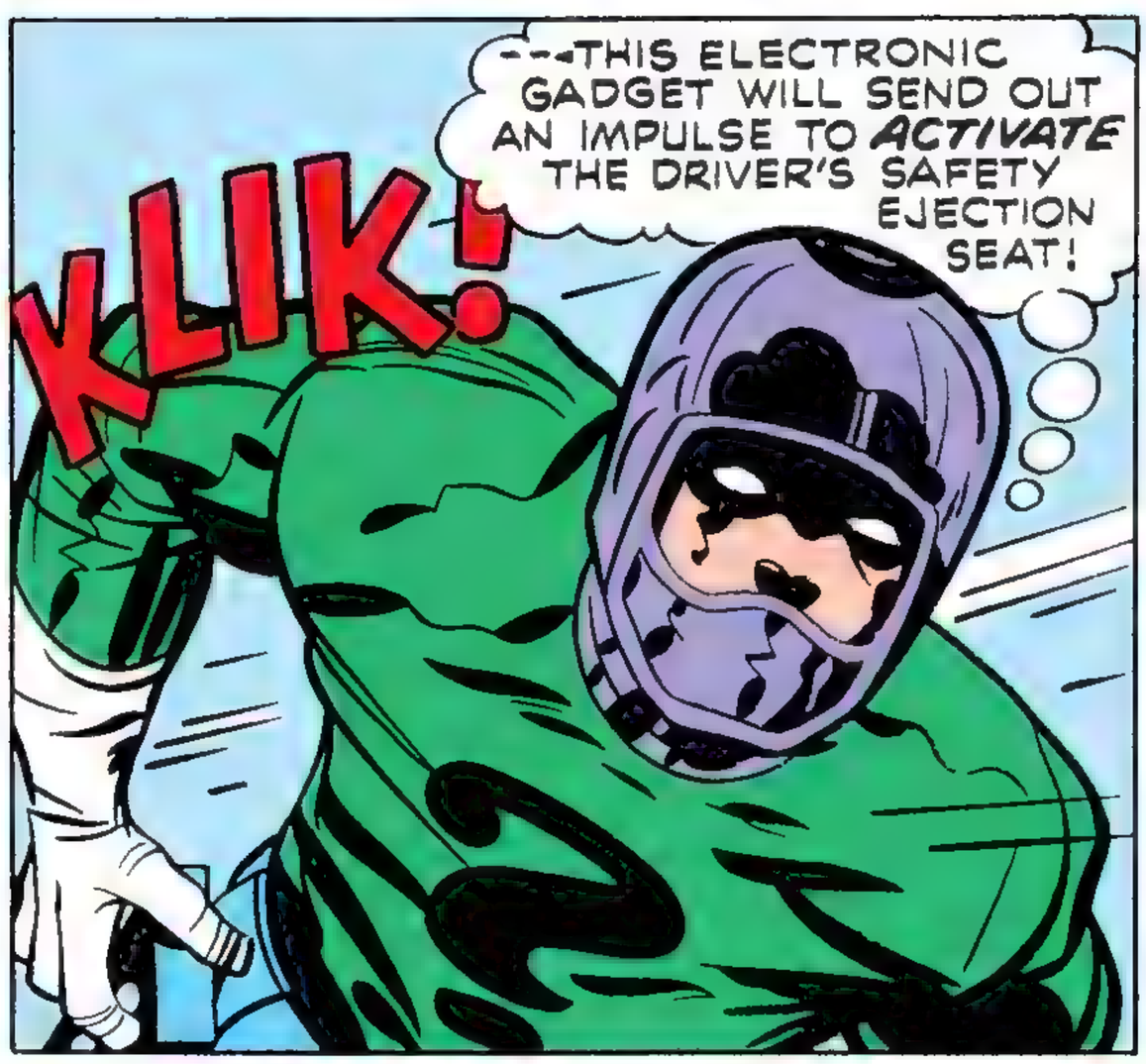
26

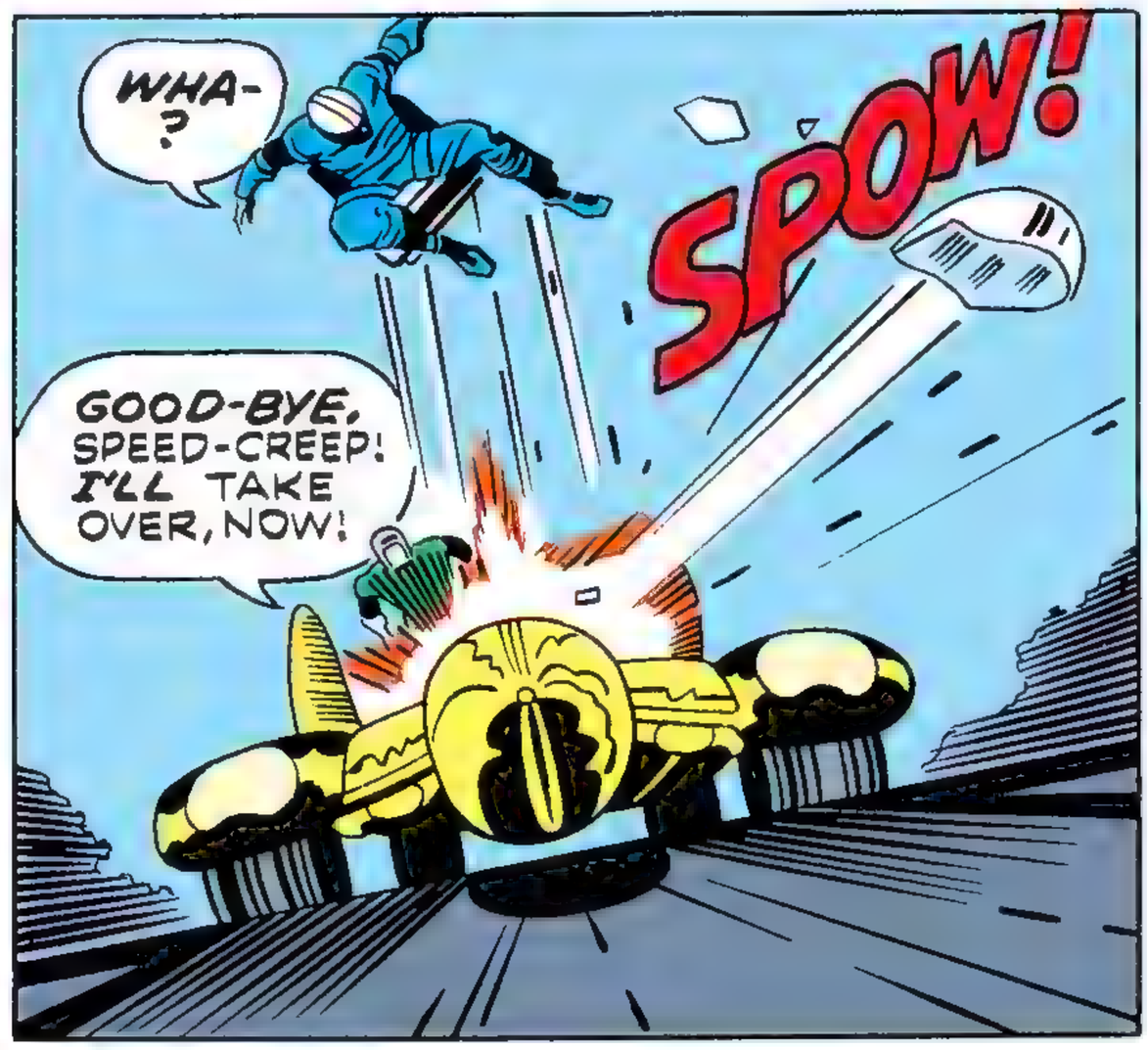
THE FOREVER DC PEOPLE
FIRST IN COMICS
BEST IN COMICS
A NEW LIFE FOR DEADMAN--HIJACKED BY THE
SCAVENGERS!
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 10
SEPT.
30490
DEADMAN--LOOK OUT FOR--!

AMONG THEIR STRANGE EXPERIENCES ON THE PLANET EARTH, FOUR YOUNG *ADVENTURERS* FROM *NEW GENESIS* HAVE STUMBLED INTO THE MOST *BIZARRE* INVOLVEMENT YET! FATE HAS PUT A RESTLESS *DEADMAN* IN THEIR PATH!! AND, IN ACCEPTING HIM, THEY'VE ALSO ACCEPTED HIS MISSION OF BRINGING HIS MURDERER TO JUSTICE! *WHO KILLED BOSTON BRAND?*?? THE ANSWER MAY NEVER COME---BECAUSE OF---

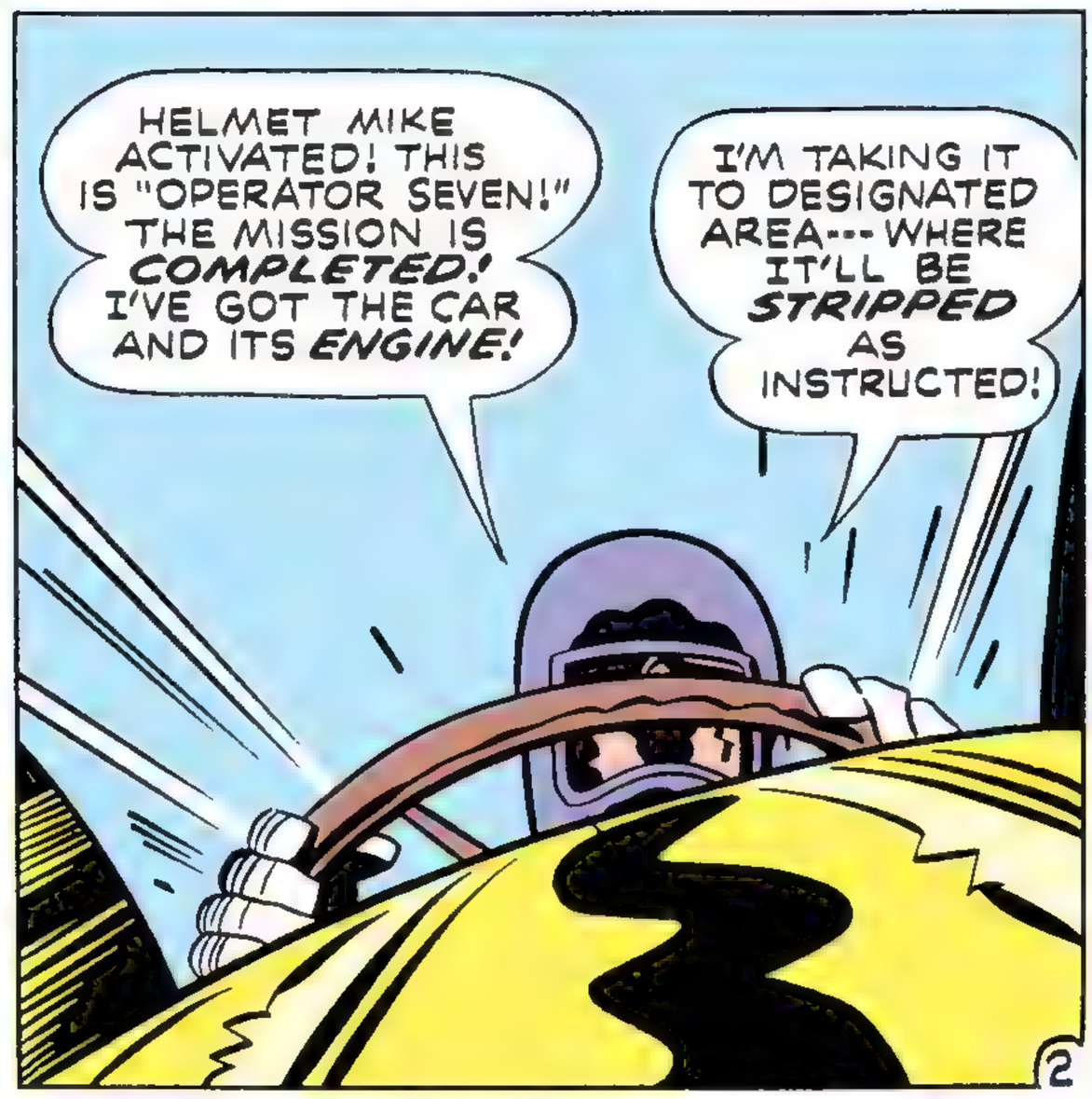



PERFECT DROP! RIGHT ON TARGET!
WHILE THESE MAGNETIC BOOTS ANCHOR ME TO THIS MOTORIZED COMET---
KLANK!
KLANK!

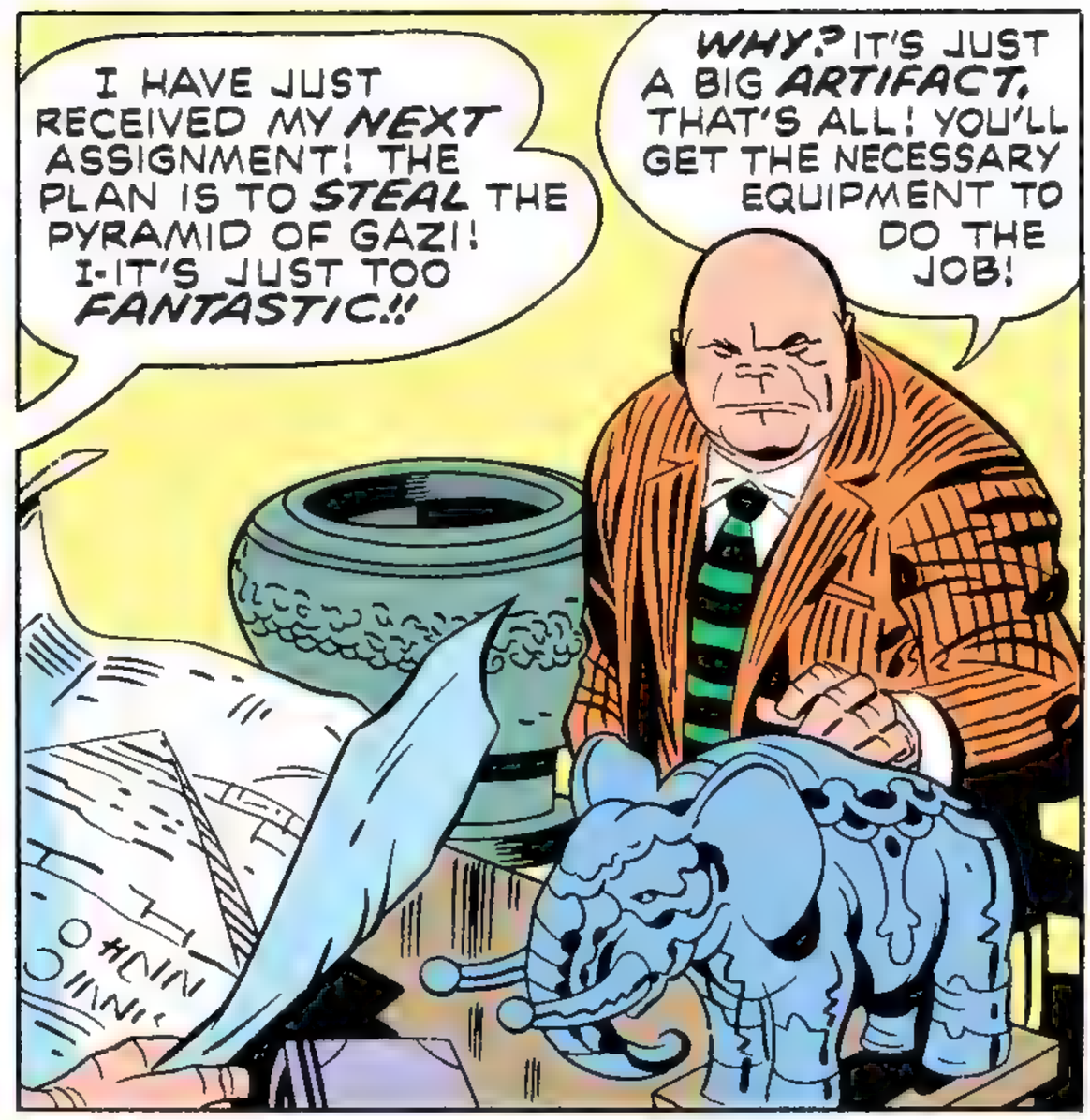

---THIS ELECTRONIC GADGET WILL SEND OUT AN IMPULSE TO ACTIVATE THE DRIVER'S SAFETY EJECTION SEAT!
KLIK!

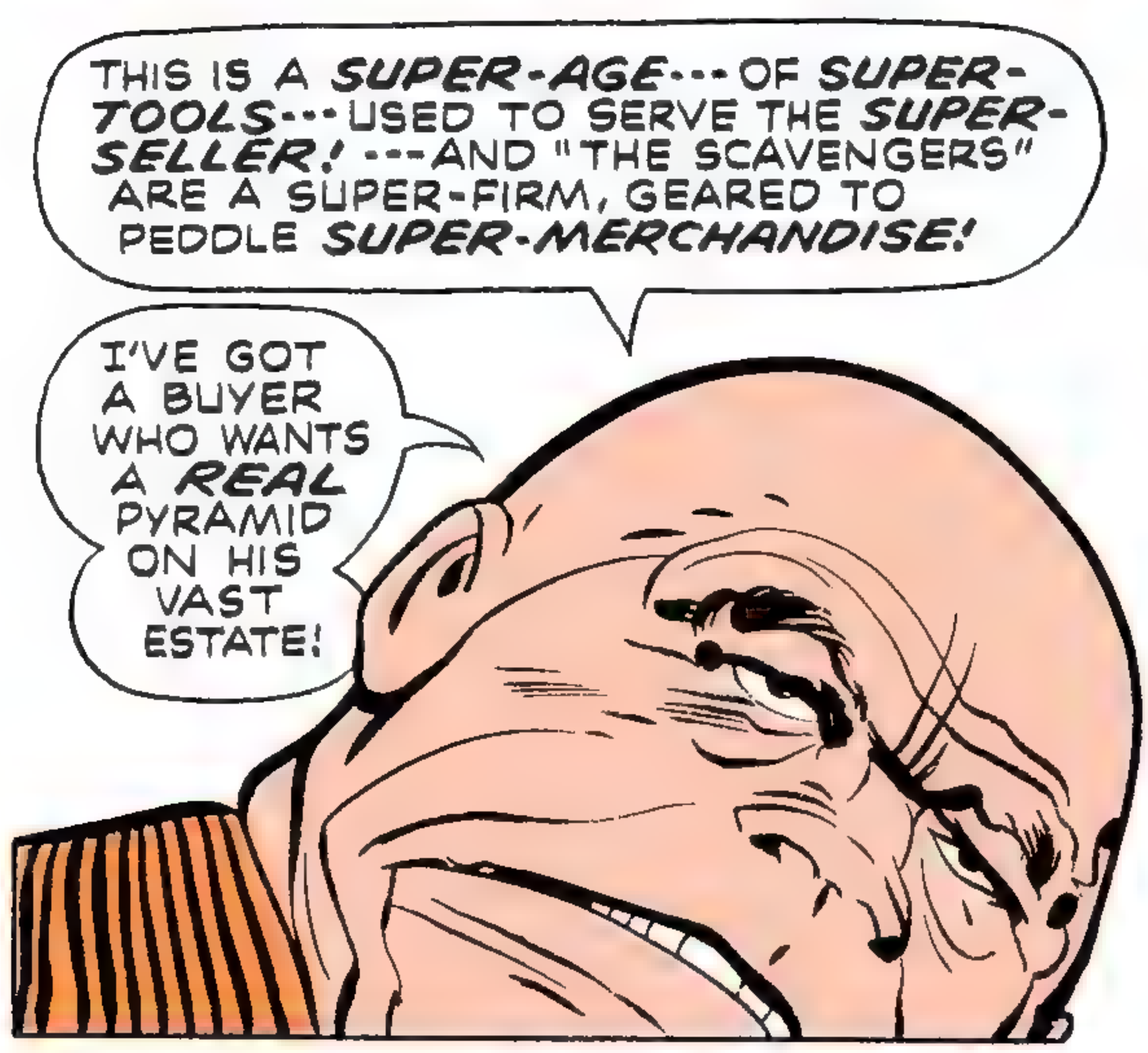

WHA-?
SPOW!
GOOD-BYE, SPEED-CREEP! I'LL TAKE OVER, NOW!

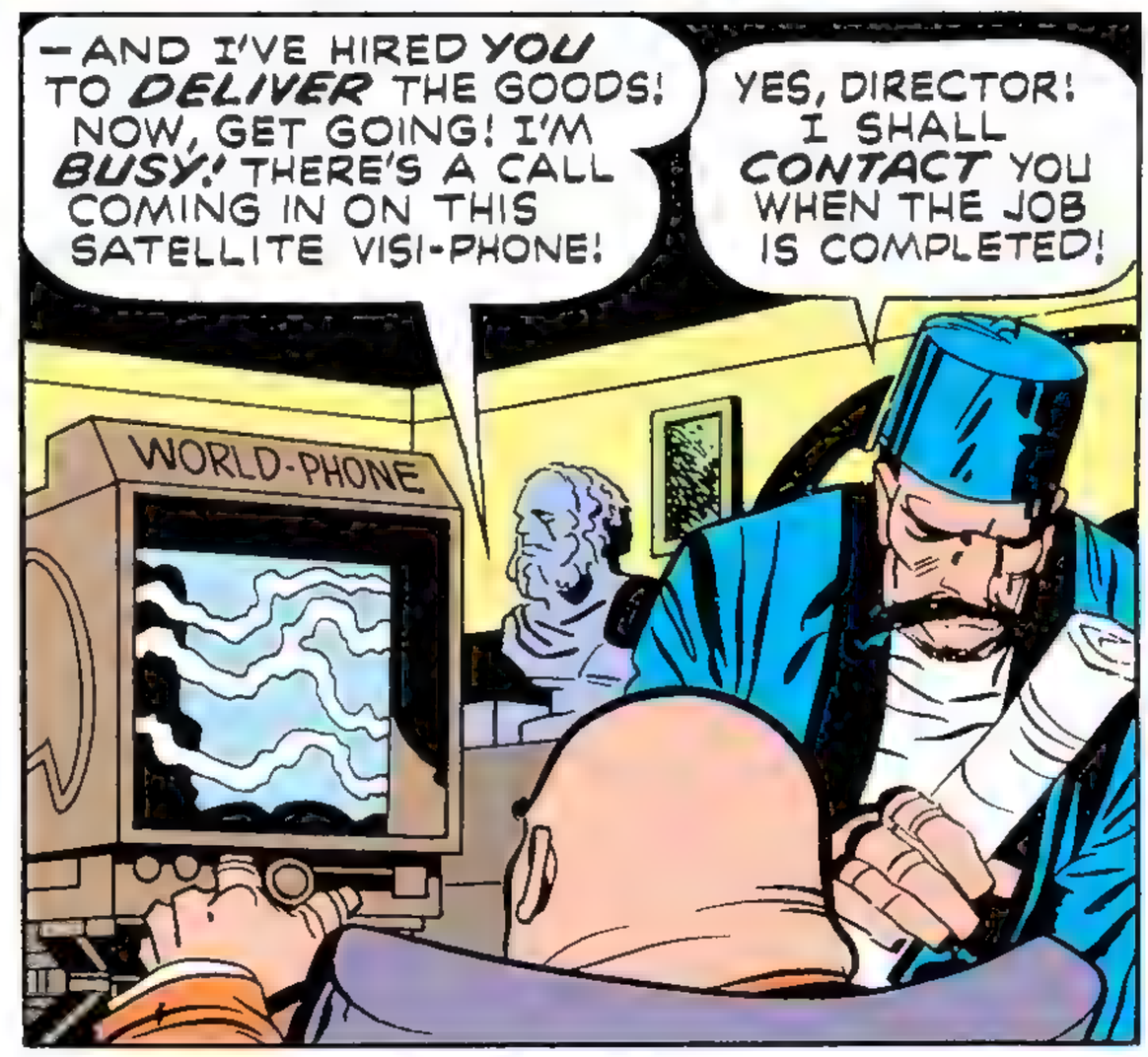
ONLY A FOOL WOULD RISK HIS NECK ON THIS KIND OF JOB! BUT ONLY A FOOL WOULD TURN DOWN THE MONEY PAID OUT BY "THE SCAVENGERS!"

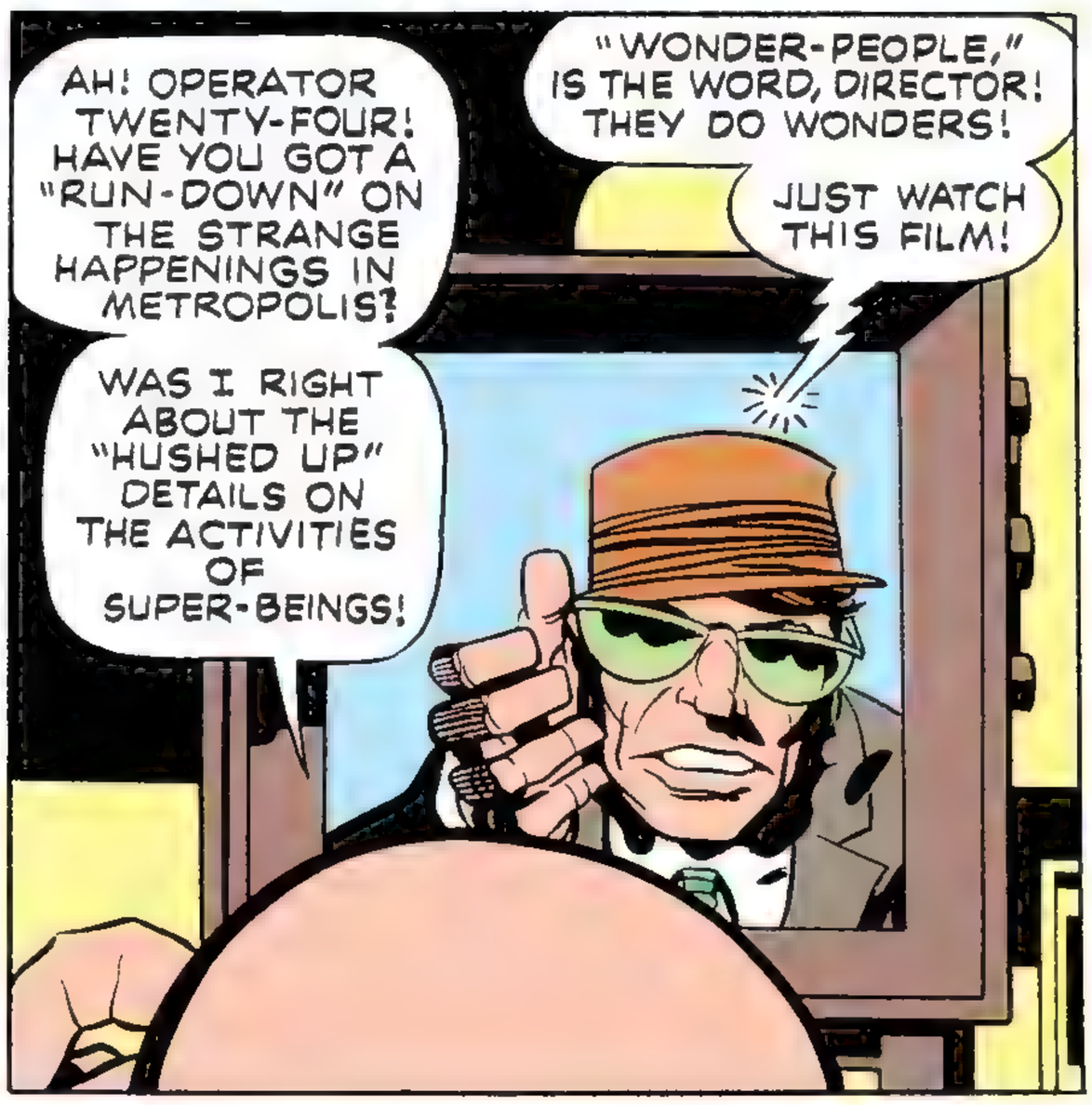

HELMET MIKE ACTIVATED! THIS IS "OPERATOR SEVEN!" THE MISSION IS COMPLETED! I'VE GOT THE CAR AND ITS ENGINE!
I'M TAKING IT TO DESIGNATED AREA--- WHERE IT'LL BE STRIPPED AS INSTRUCTED!
2

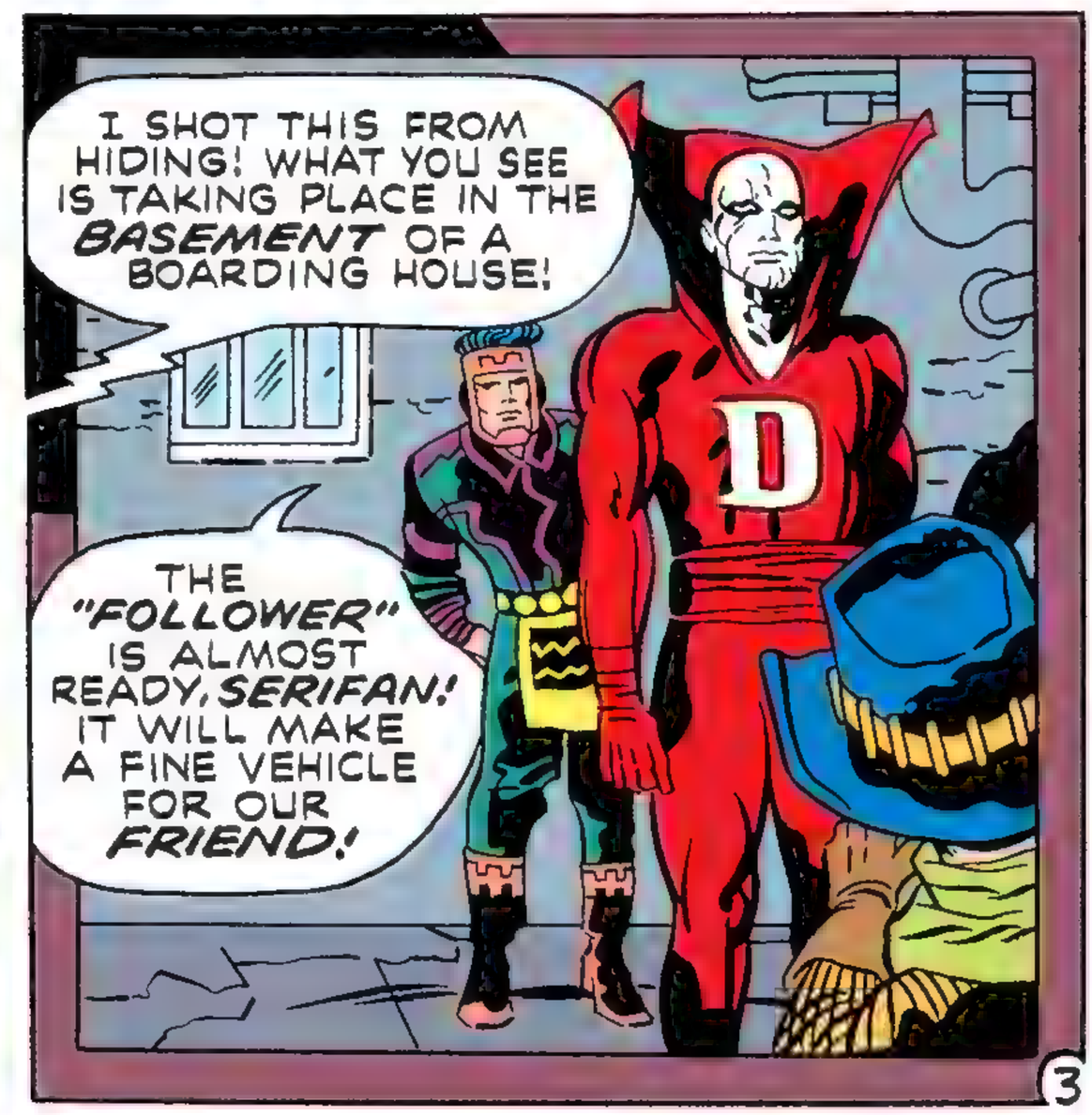
AND ON THE *OTHER* END OF "OPERATOR SEVEN'S" LINE---

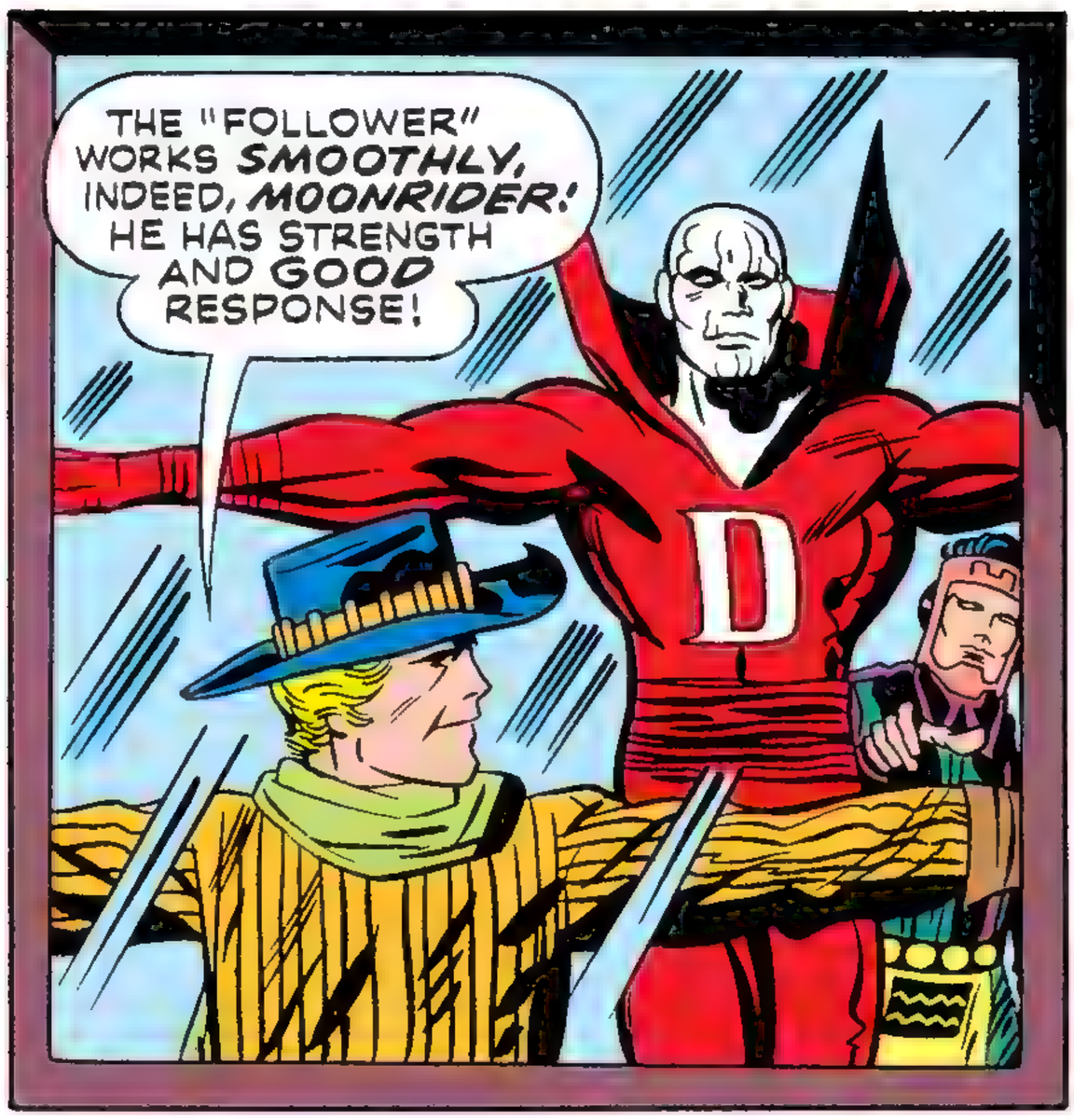


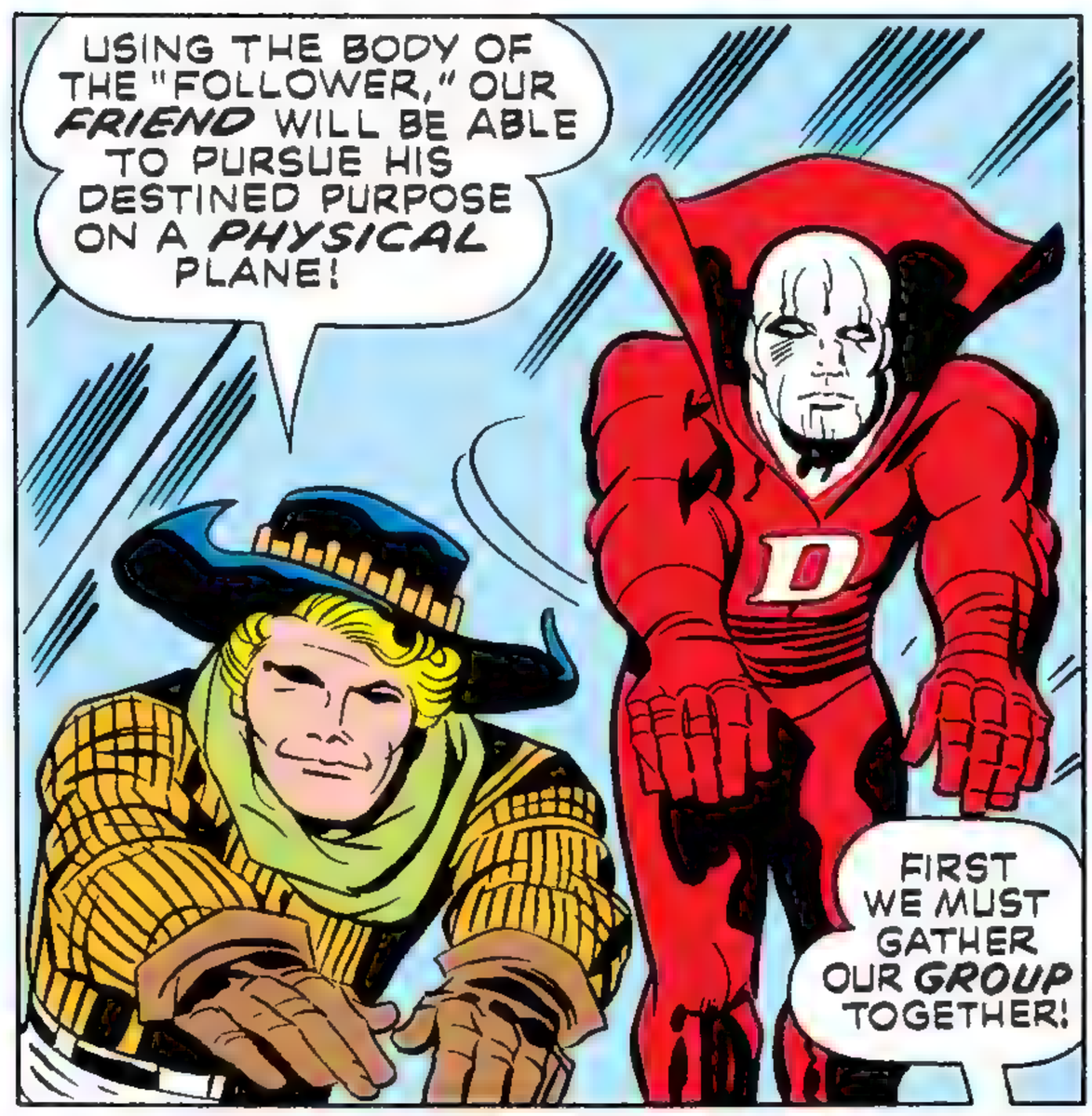


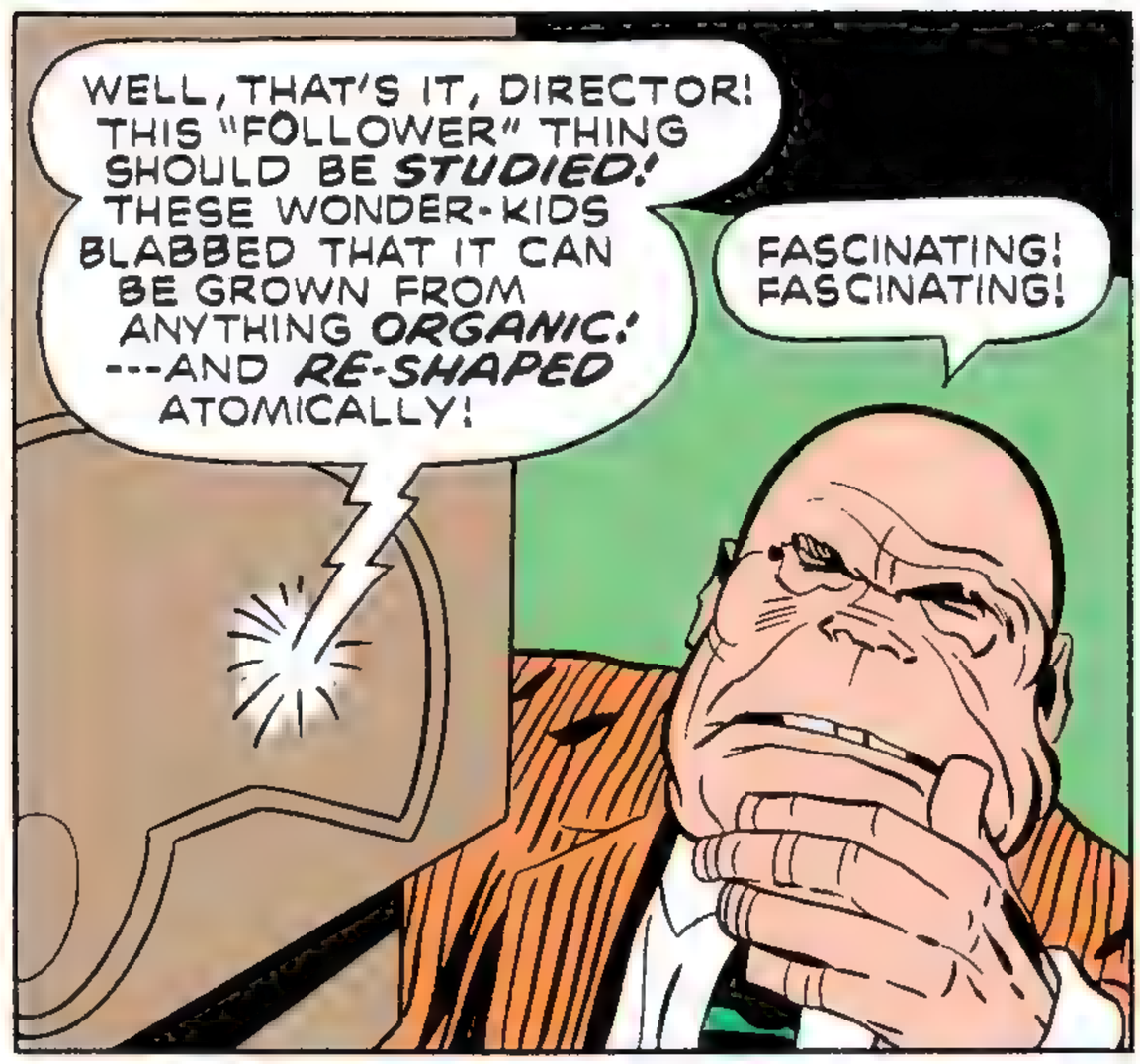




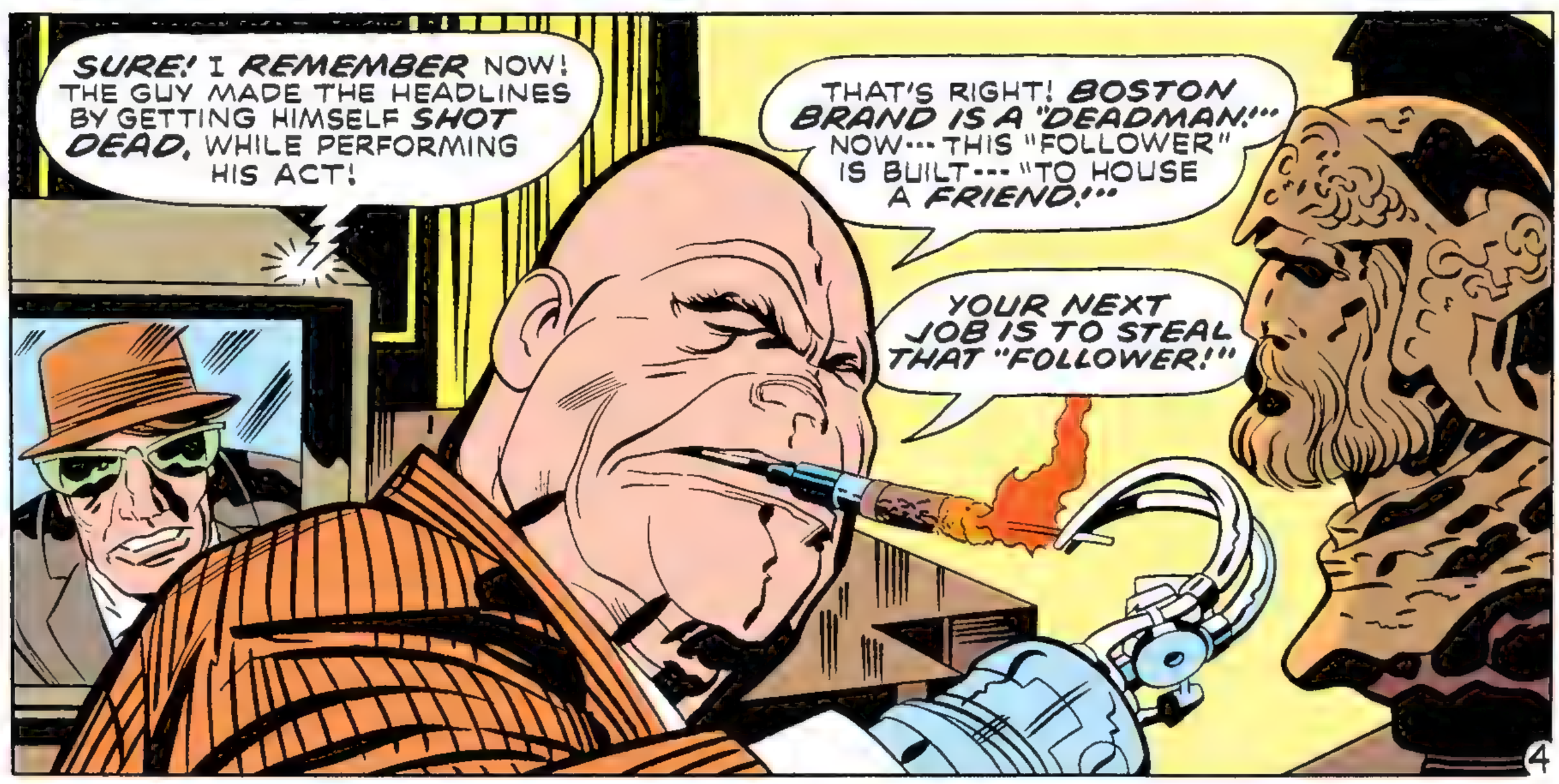



THE "FOLLOWER" WORKS SMOOTHLY, INDEED, MOONRIDER! HE HAS STRENGTH AND GOOD RESPONSE!


USING THE BODY OF THE "FOLLOWER," OUR FRIEND WILL BE ABLE TO PURSUE HIS DESTINED PURPOSE ON A PHYSICAL PLANE!
FIRST WE MUST GATHER OUR GROUP TOGETHER!

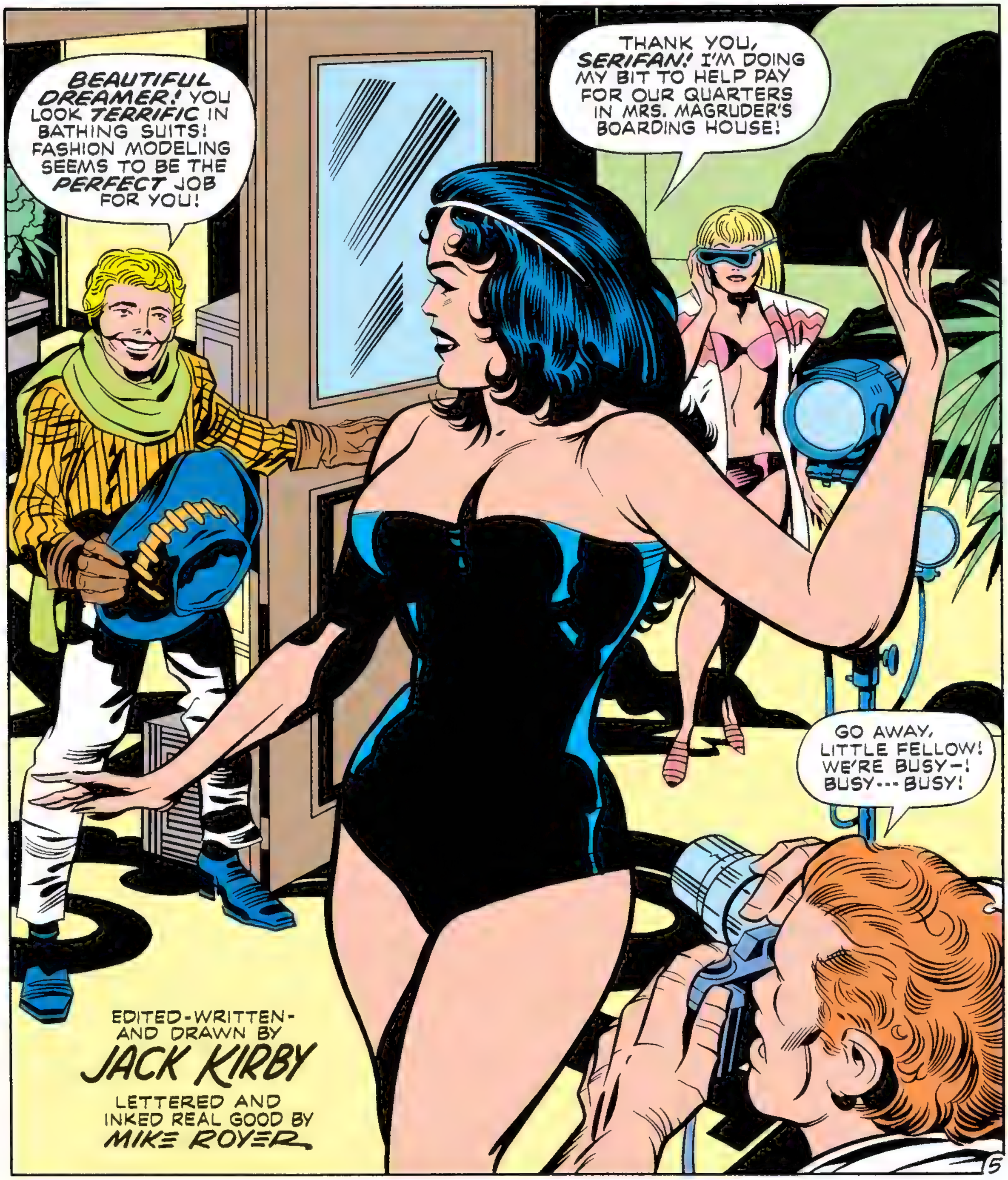

WELL, THAT'S IT, DIRECTOR! THIS "FOLLOWER" THING SHOULD BE STUDIED! THESE WONDER-KIDS BLABBED THAT IT CAN BE GROWN FROM ANYTHING ORGANIC! ---AND RE-SHAPED ATOMICALLY!
FASCINATING! FASCINATING!

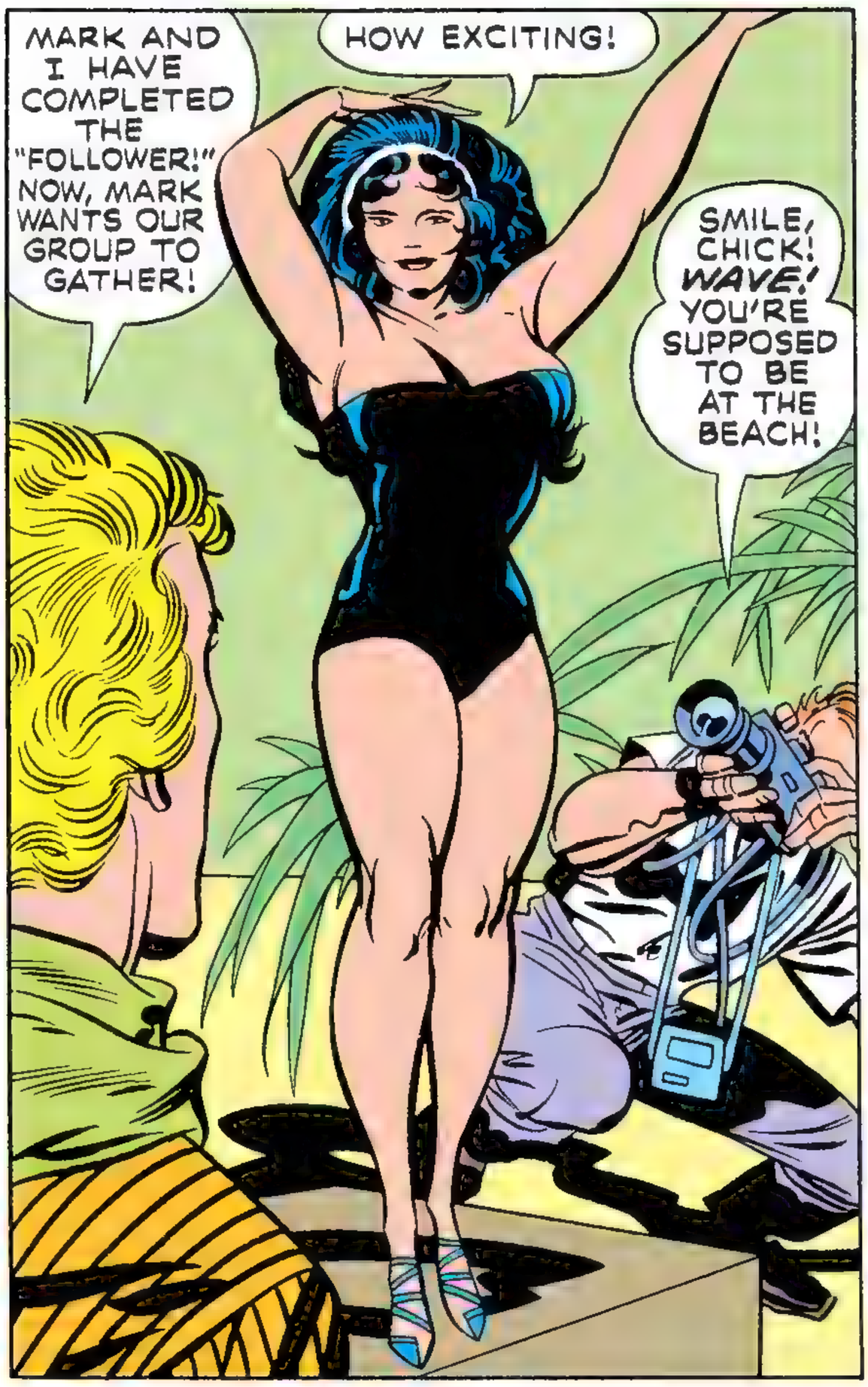
WHAT INTERESTS ME MOST IS THE IMAGE OF THAT "FOLLOWER-THING!" --- IT LOOKS LIKE AN ACROBAT IN COSTUME, NAMED BOSTON BRAND!


SURE! I REMEMBER NOW! THE GUY MADE THE HEADLINES BY GETTING HIMSELF SHOT DEAD, WHILE PERFORMING HIS ACT!
THAT'S RIGHT! BOSTON BRAND IS A "DEADMAN!" NOW... THIS "FOLLOWER" IS BUILT... "TO HOUSE A FRIEND!"
YOUR NEXT JOB IS TO STEAL THAT "FOLLOWER!"
4

AND SO WE HAVE THE DRIVING, INNOVATIVE FORCE OF *"THE SCAVENGERS"* ON A *COLLISION* COURSE WITH THE INEXPLICABLE OBJECTS! WHAT WILL HAPPEN IS A GRIPPING BATTLE BETWEEN *PIRACY* GROWN "BIG" AND TECHNICAL--- AND THE STRANGE PAWNS OF JUSTICE SEEKING ITS ETERNAL DUE! IT'S ANOTHER EXCITING AND NERVE-TESTING CHAPTER IN THE SAGA OF EARTH'S MOST *CHARMING* NEW IMMIGRANTS--- THE

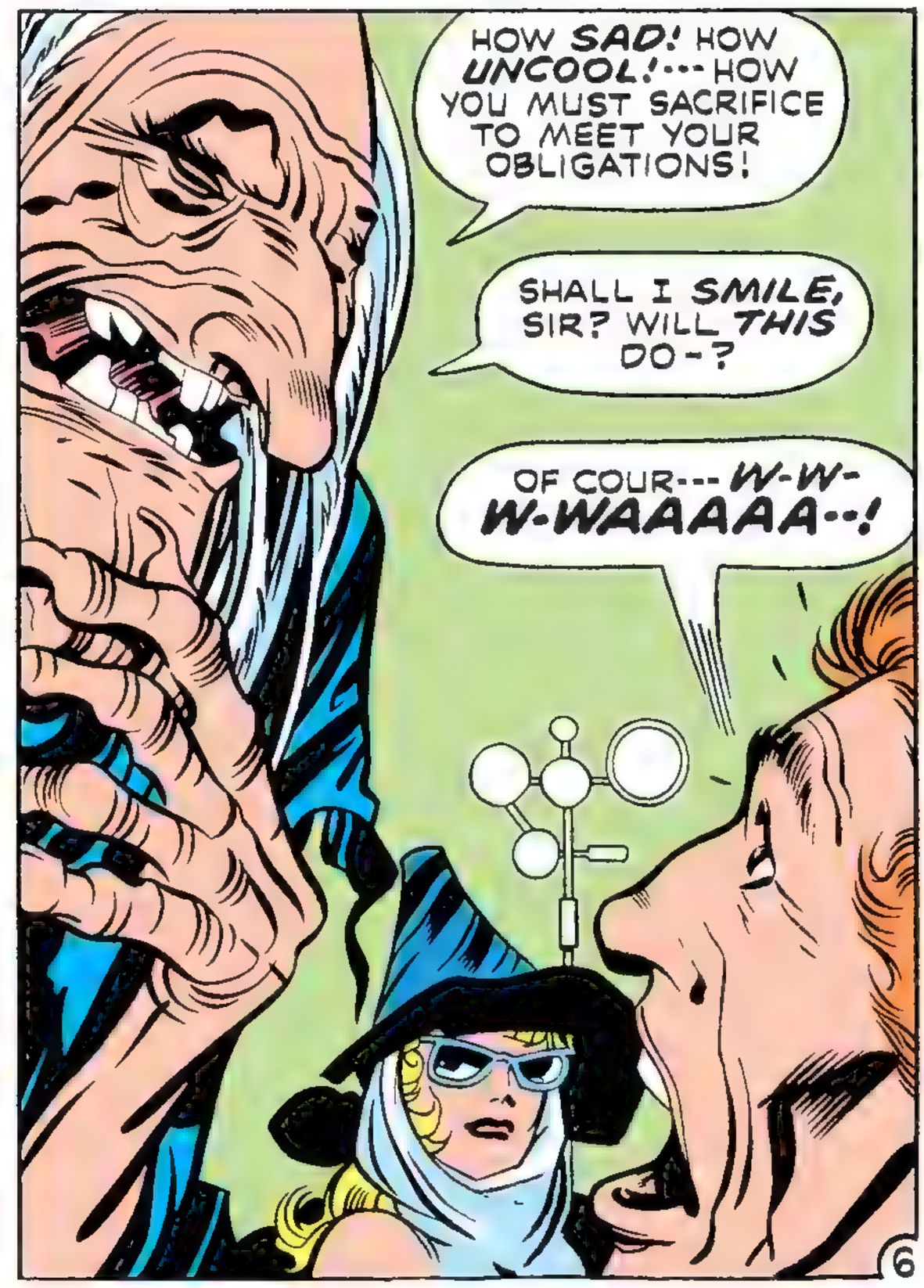
FOREVER PEOPLE

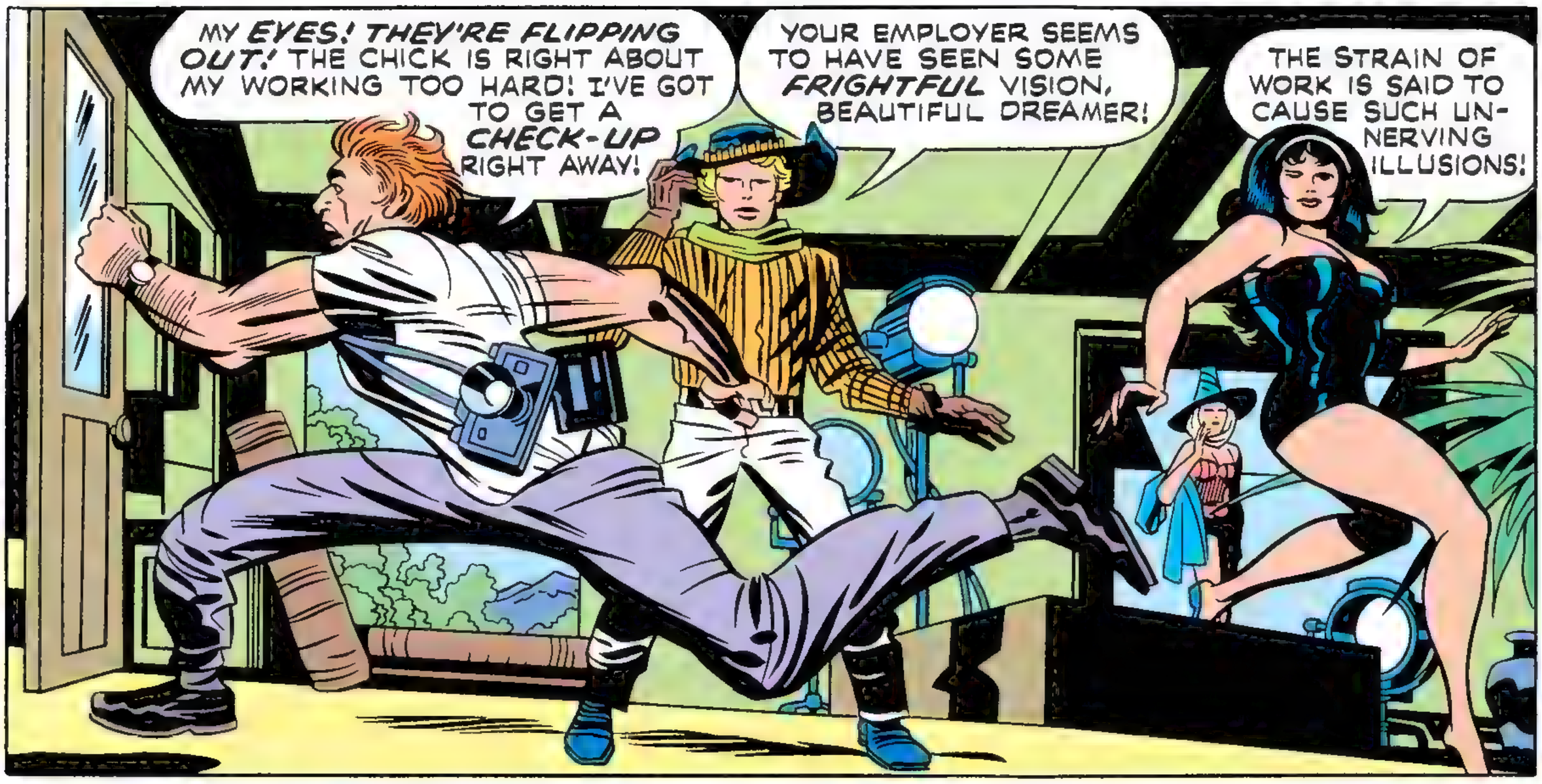



MARK AND I HAVE COMPLETED THE "FOLLOWER!" NOW, MARK WANTS OUR GROUP TO GATHER!
HOW EXCITING!
SMILE, CHICK! WAVE! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE BEACH!

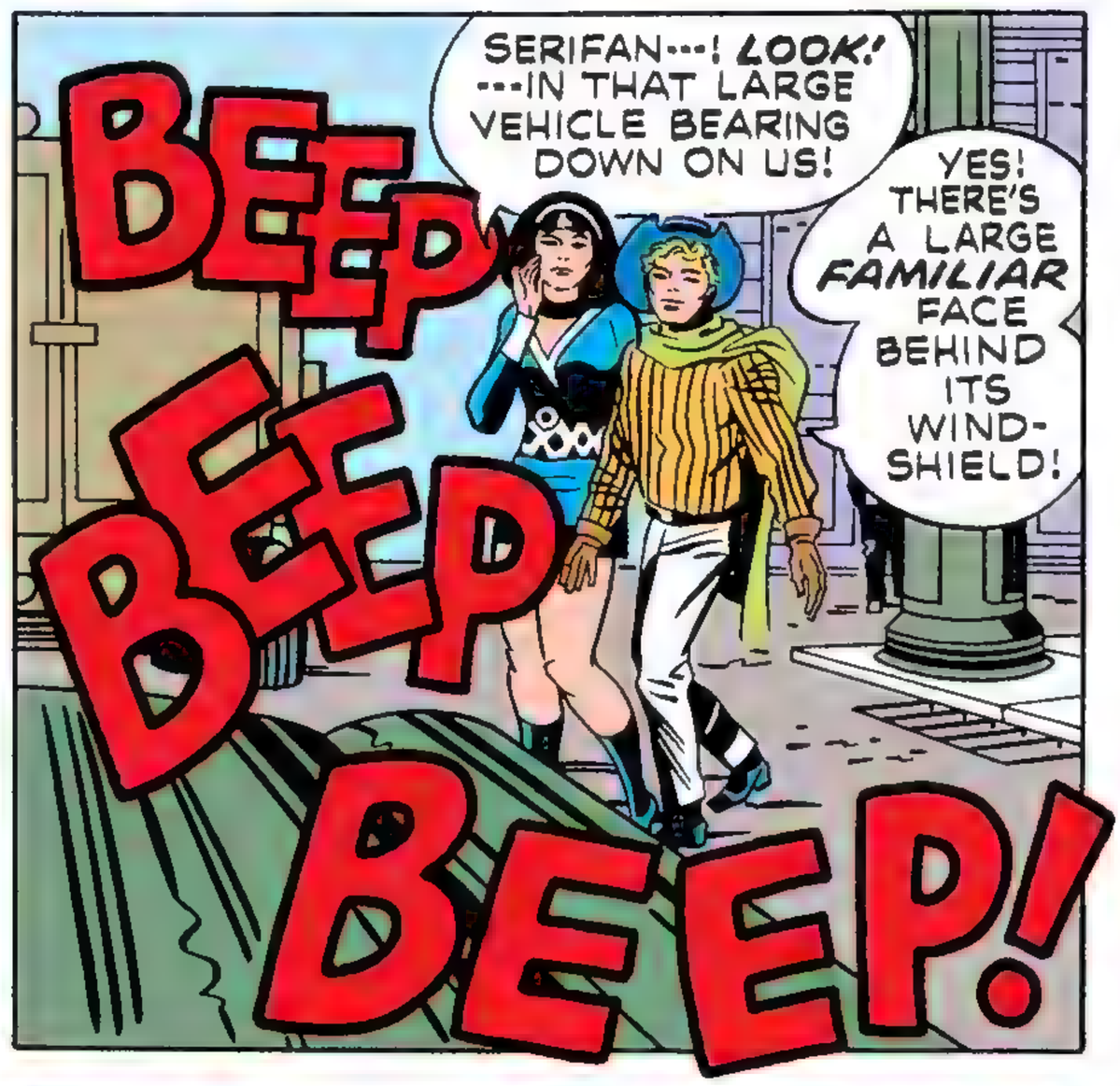
---ER, MISTER BRECKENRIDGE---IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO TERMINATE MY POSING AT THIS POINT? THERE'S A VERY URGENT MATTER---
NO! NO! NO! I'VE PAID YOUR AGENCY HANDSOMELY FOR YOUR TIME--- SO I CAN MEET THIS DEADLINE, CHICK!

VERY WELL, SIR! I ONLY THOUGHT YOU LOOKED TIRED, SIR! YOU'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD---
TO BE SURE, MY SWEET! THIS BUSINESS IS IN A CONTINUAL FRENZY!


HOW SAD! HOW UNCOOL!--- HOW YOU MUST SACRIFICE TO MEET YOUR OBLIGATIONS!
SHALL I SMILE, SIR? WILL THIS DO-?
OF COUR--- W-W-W-WAAAAA--!
6


MY EYES! THEY'RE FLIPPING OUT! THE CHICK IS RIGHT ABOUT MY WORKING TOO HARD! I'VE GOT TO GET A CHECK-UP RIGHT AWAY!
YOUR EMPLOYER SEEMS TO HAVE SEEN SOME FRIGHTFUL VISION, BEAUTIFUL DREAMER!
THE STRAIN OF WORK IS SAID TO CAUSE SUCH UN-NERVING ILLUSIONS!

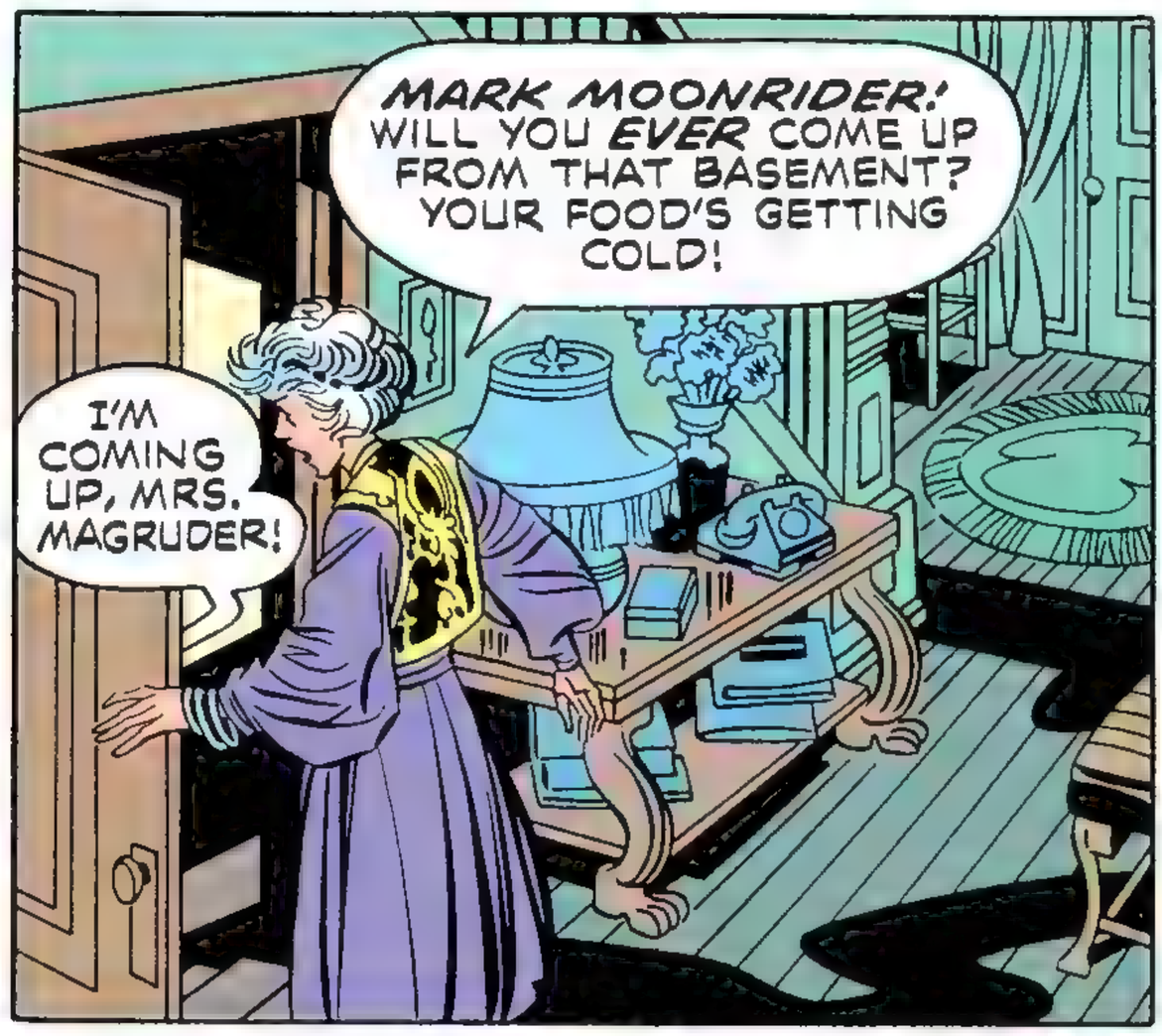
SOON AFTER ---
IT GRIEVED ME TO SHOCK MISTER BRECKENRIDGE WITH AN INDUCED ILLUSION, BUT NOW I CAN HELP YOU ROUND UP THE OTHERS!

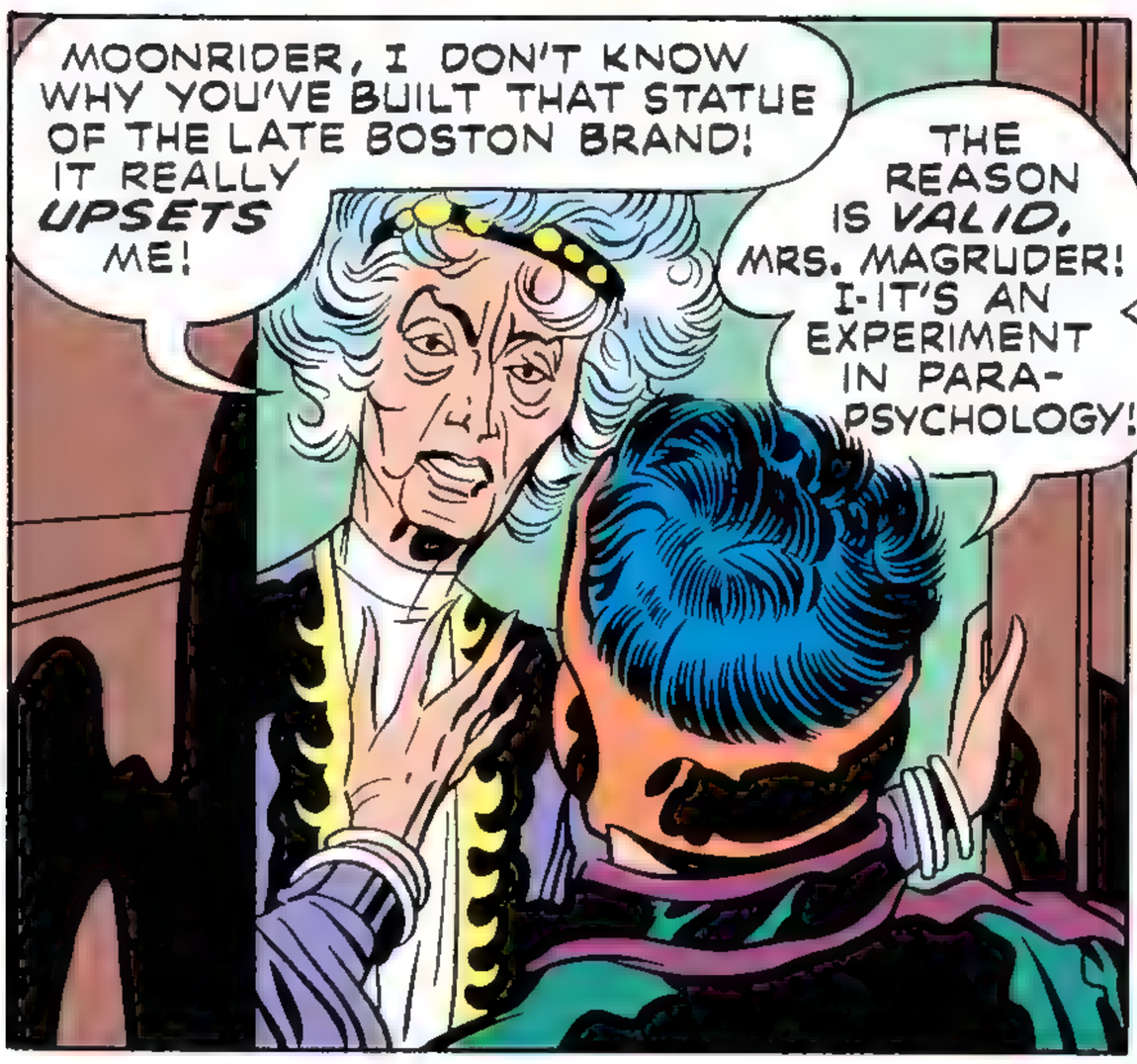

BEEP BEEP BEEP!
SERIFAN---! LOOK! ---IN THAT LARGE VEHICLE BEARING DOWN ON US!
YES! THERE'S A LARGE FAMILIAR FACE BEHIND ITS WIND-SHIELD!

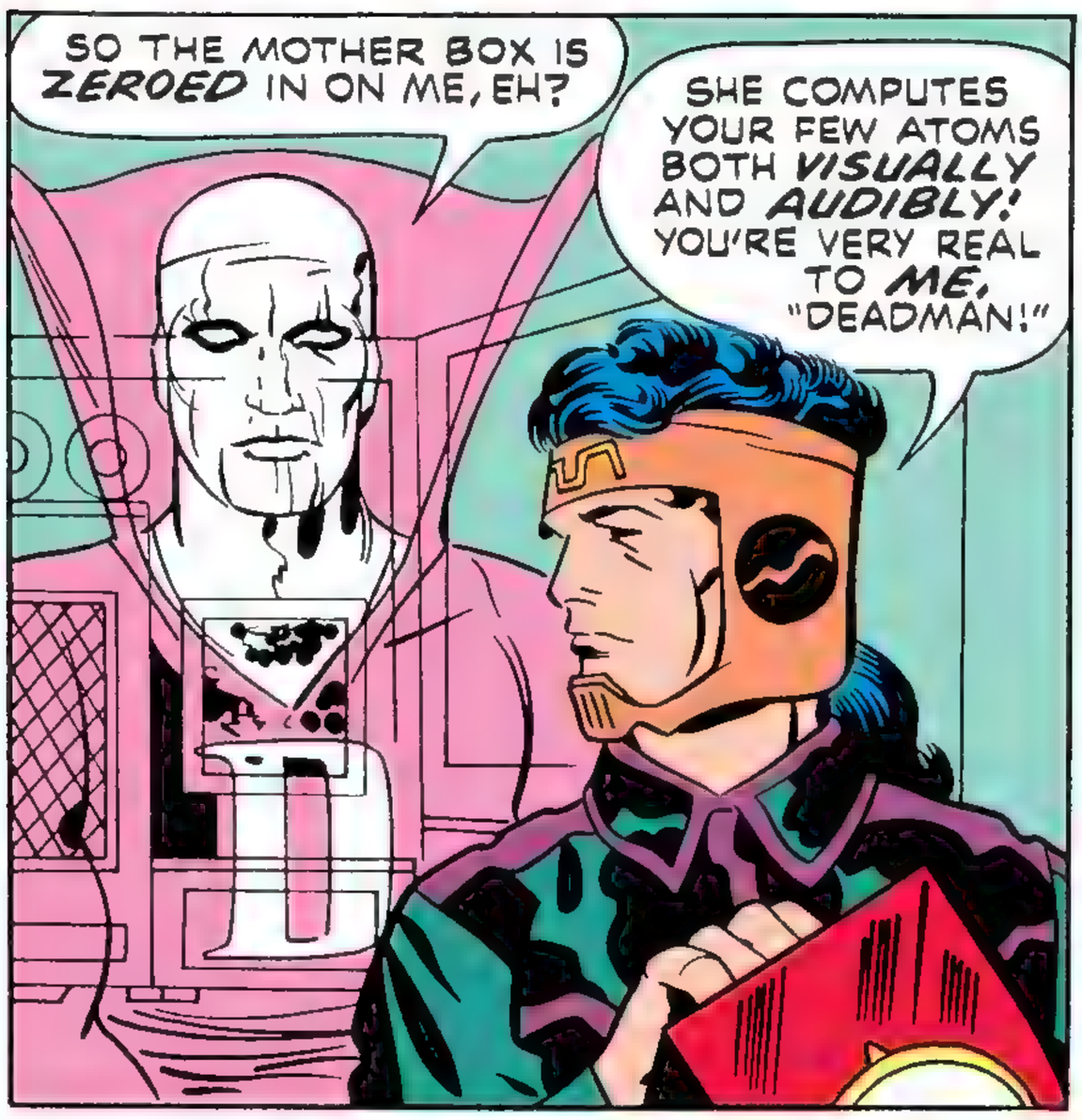
FRIENDS! FRIENDS! I'VE FOUND A JOB! I'M PAID TO PILOT THIS VEHICLE!
IT SEEMS THAT MY EMPLOYER IS PARTIAL TO COLORFUL CHARACTERS!

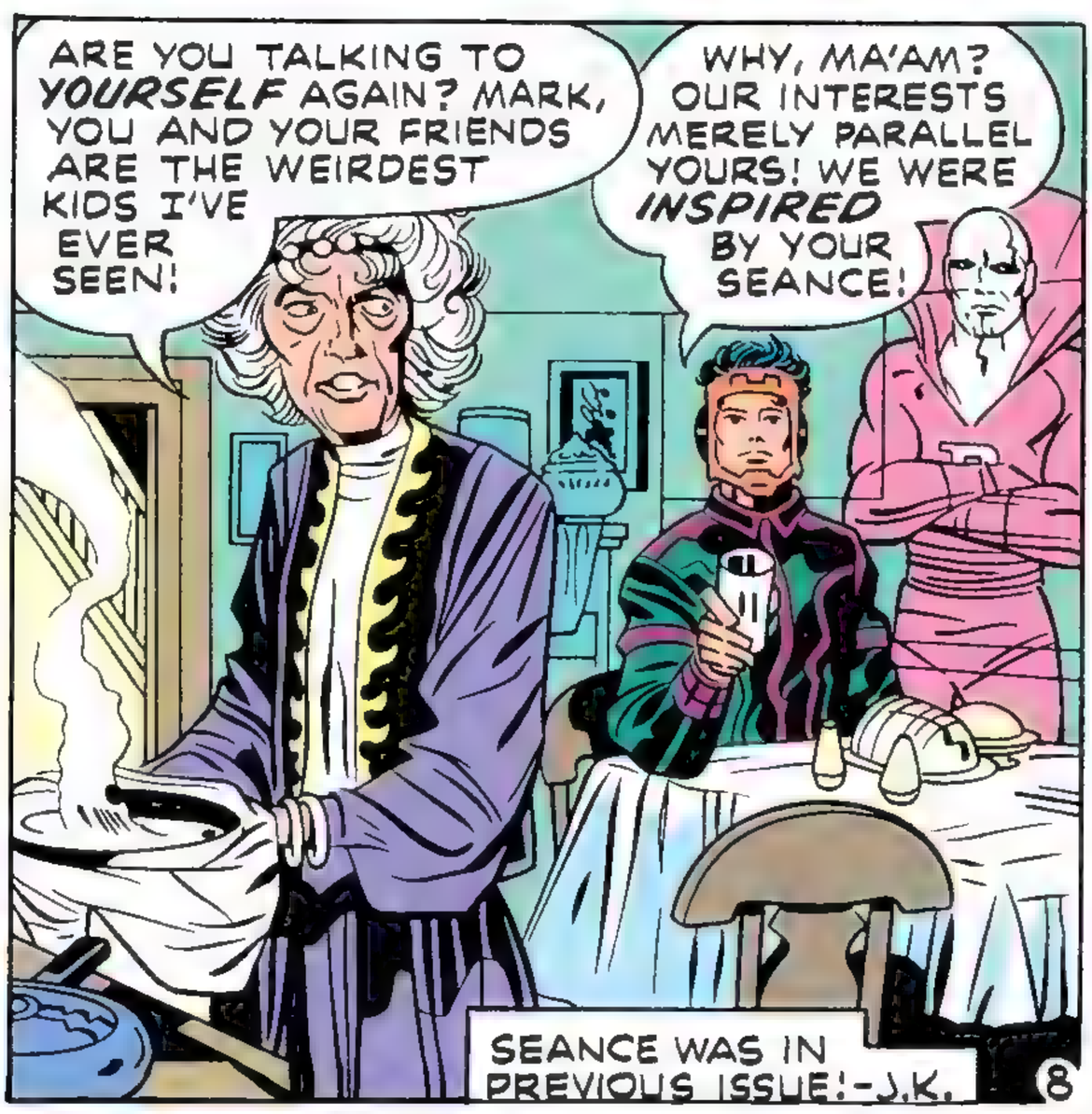
---AND I EVIDENTLY QUALIFY! HAVE YOU TWO BEEN SEEKING ME??
THE "FOLLOWER" IS COMPLETED! MARK WANTS US ALL TO BE PRESENT FOR THE RITUAL!

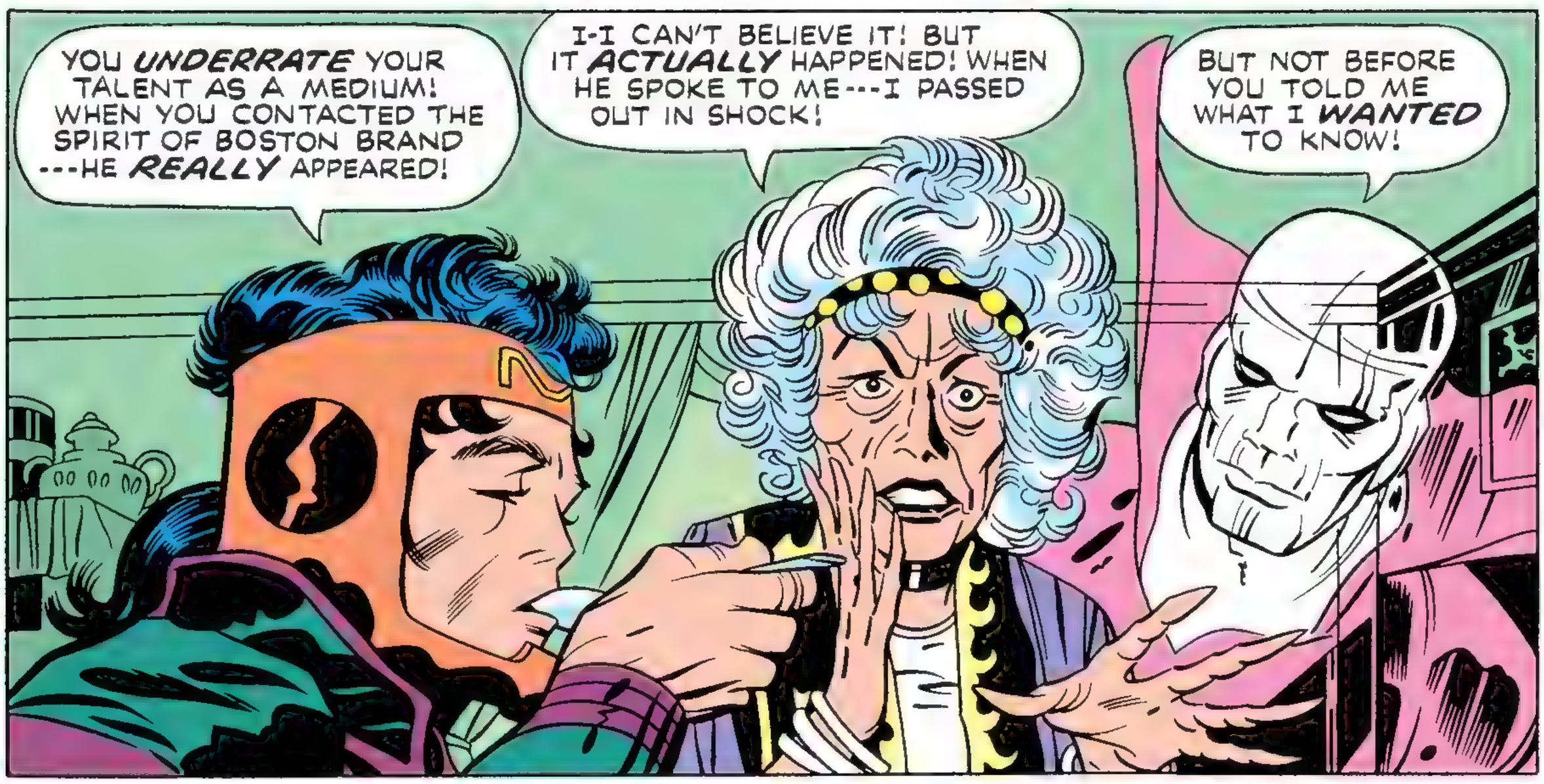
MEANWHILE, BACK AT MRS. MAGRUDER'S BOARDING HOUSE, THE STRANGE ACTIVITIES OF HER NEW TENANTS HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON HER PRIORITIES!





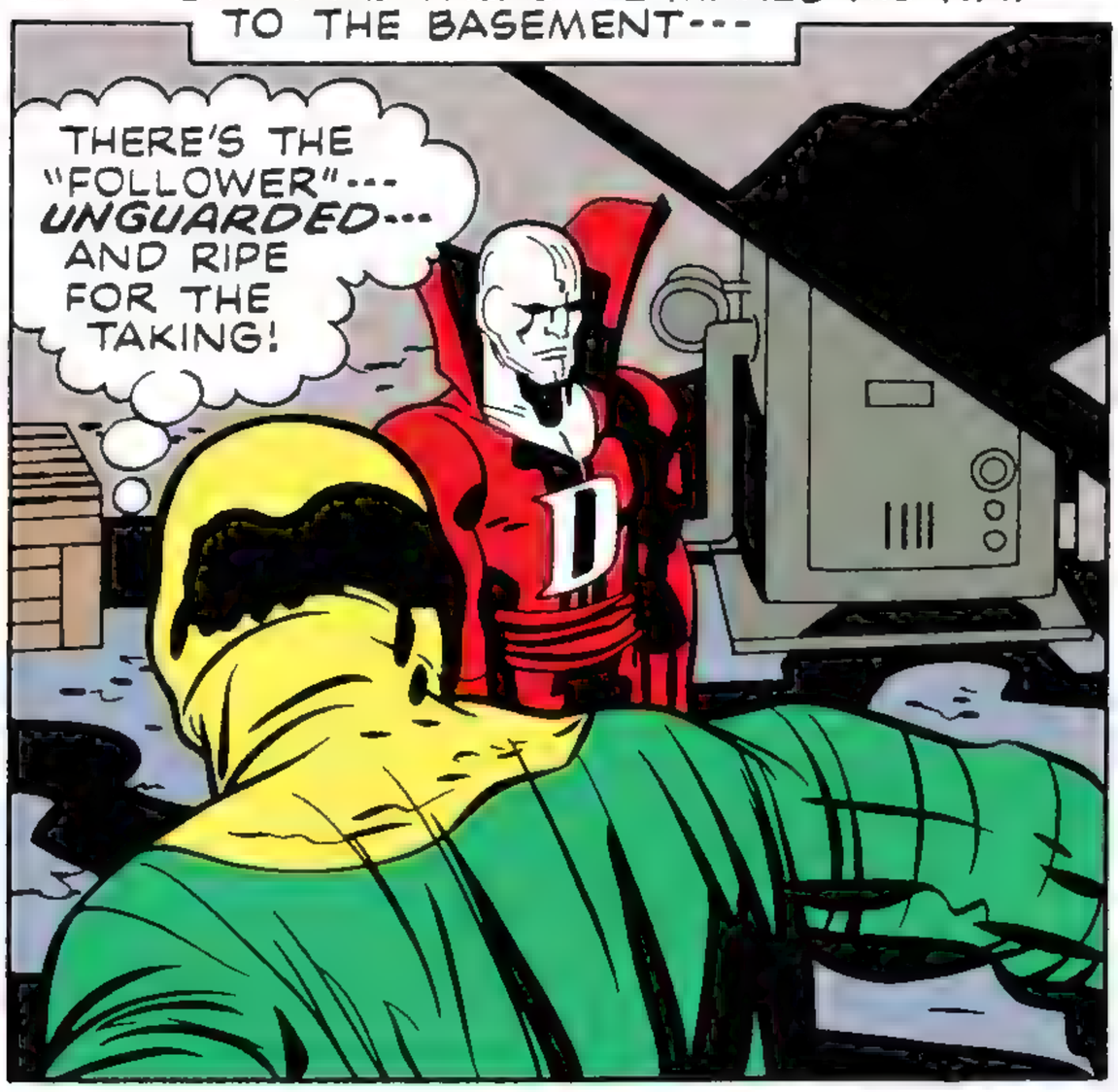


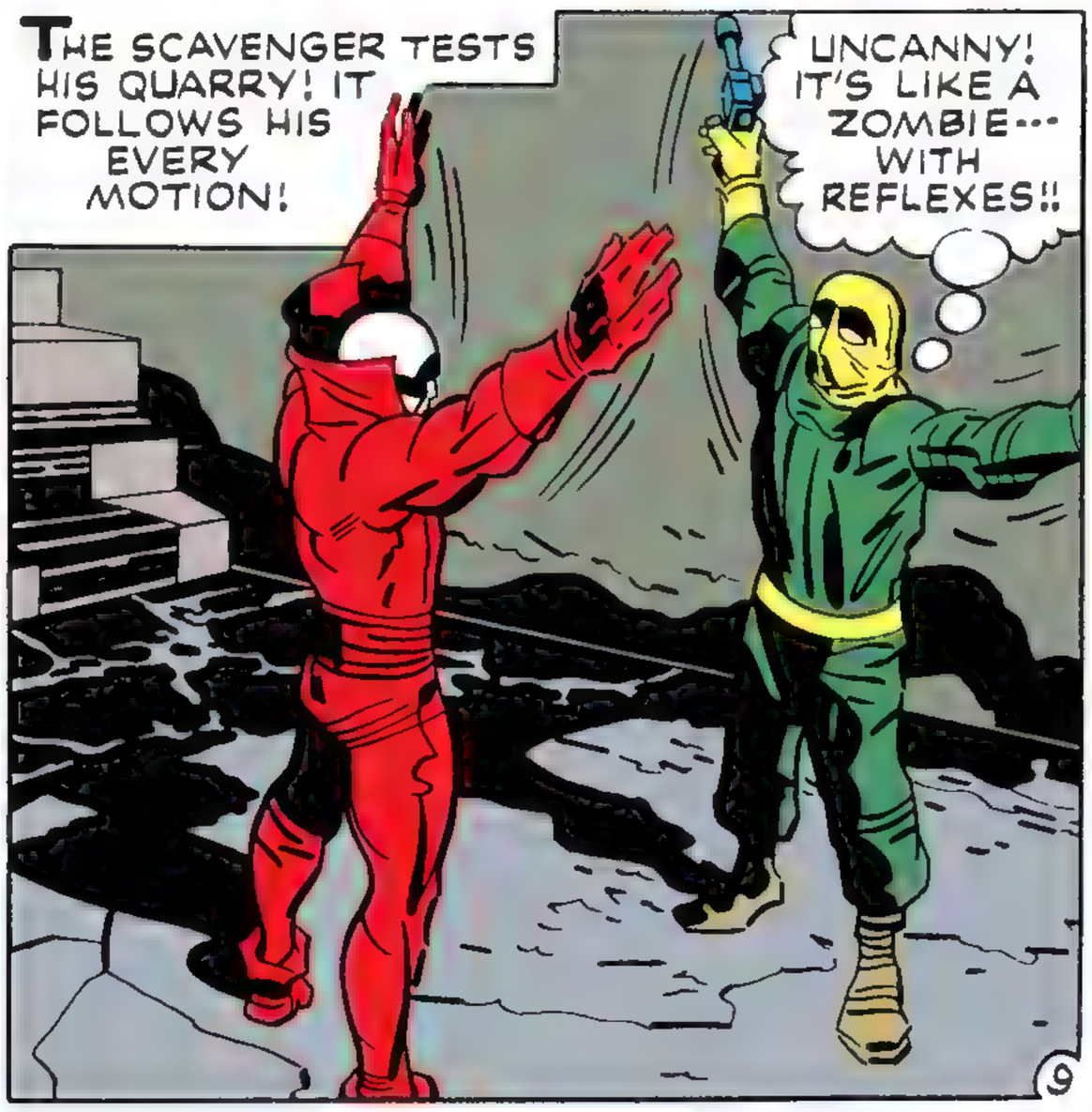




AT THAT MOMENT, A MASKED, SILENT INTRUDER CAUTIOUSLY ENTERS THE HOUSE---

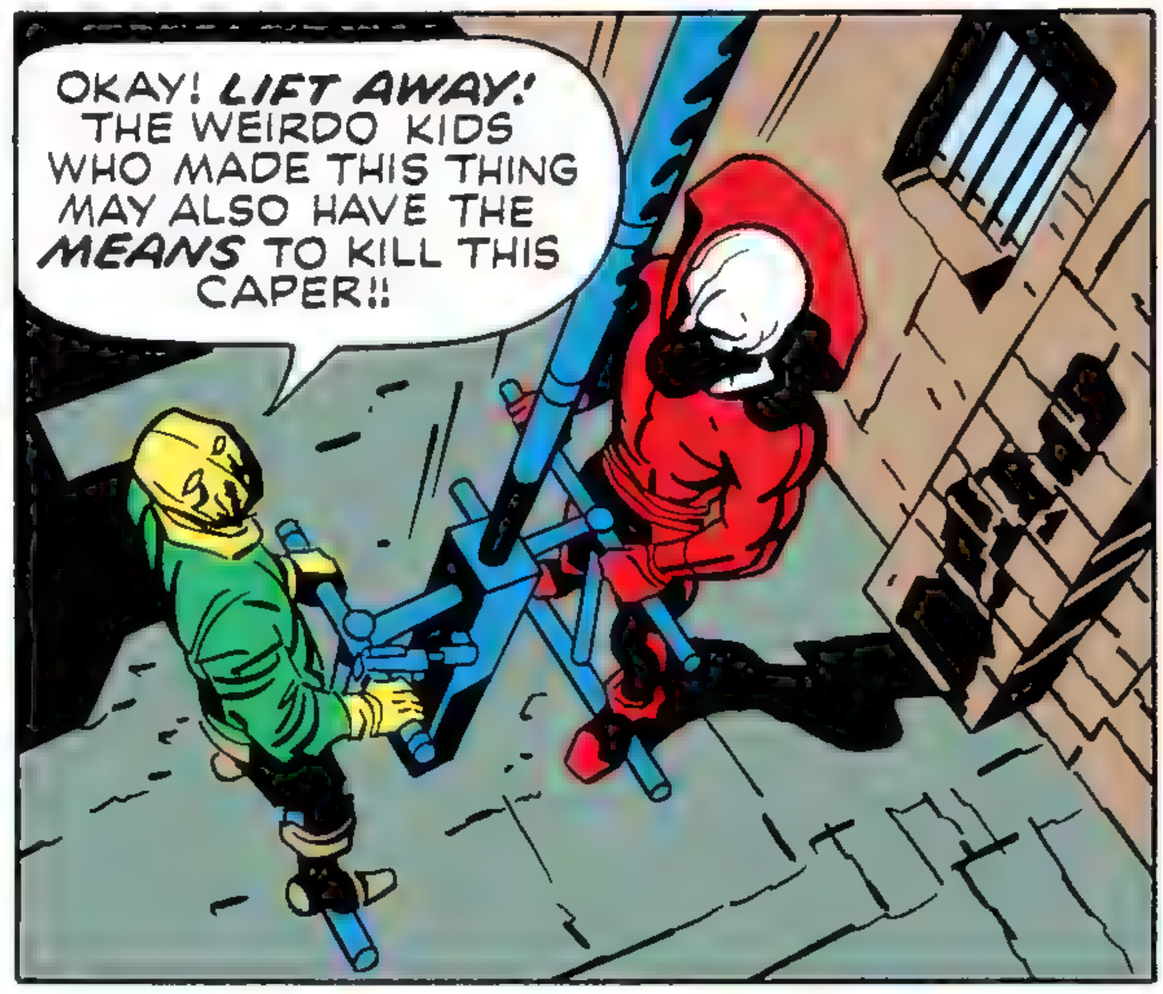
WITH CAT-LIKE TREAD HE MAKES HIS WAY TO THE BASEMENT---



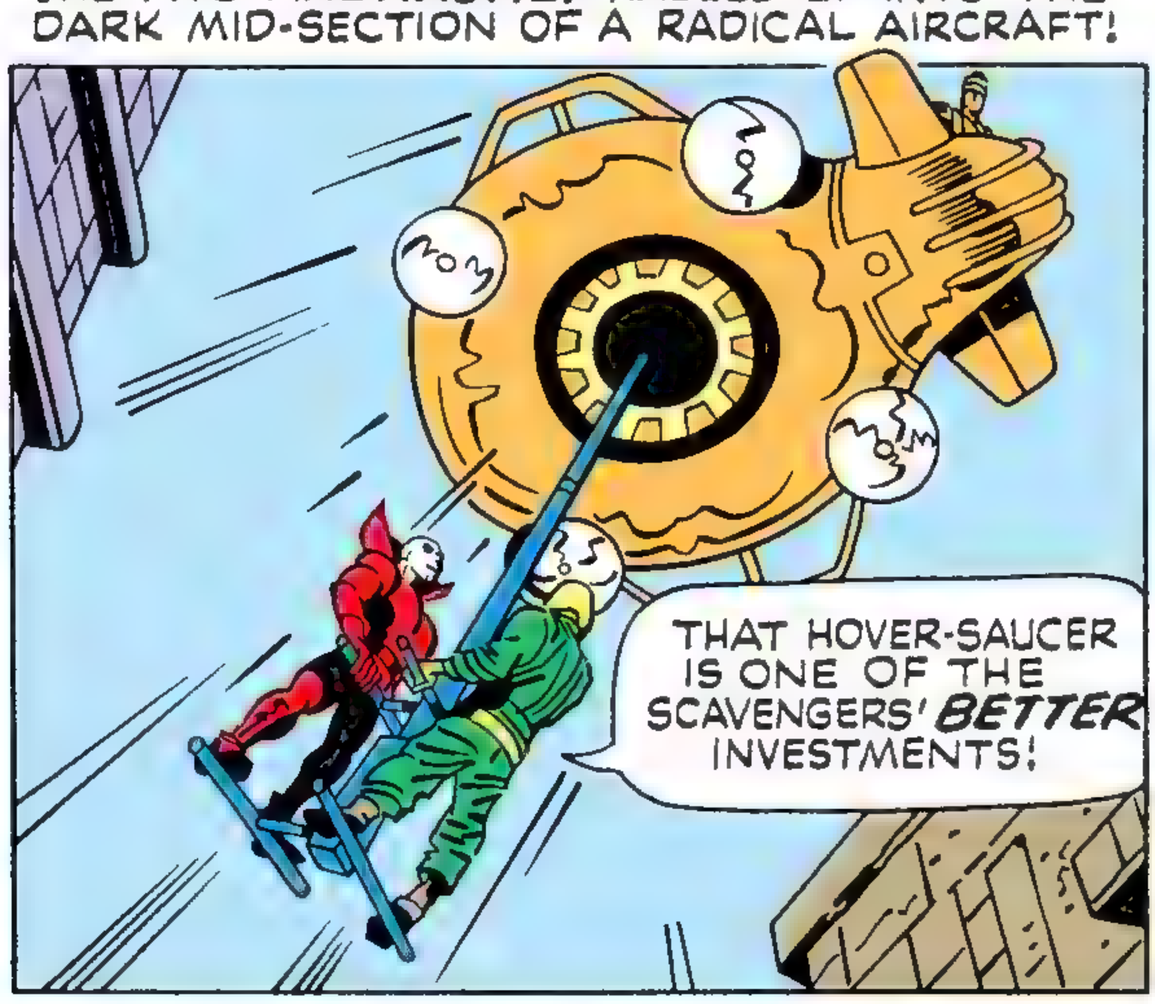


THEN, STEALING OUT THROUGH THE BASEMENT WINDOW, THE SCAVENGER LOOKS BACK TO SEE THE "FOLLOWER" DOING THE ***SAME!***

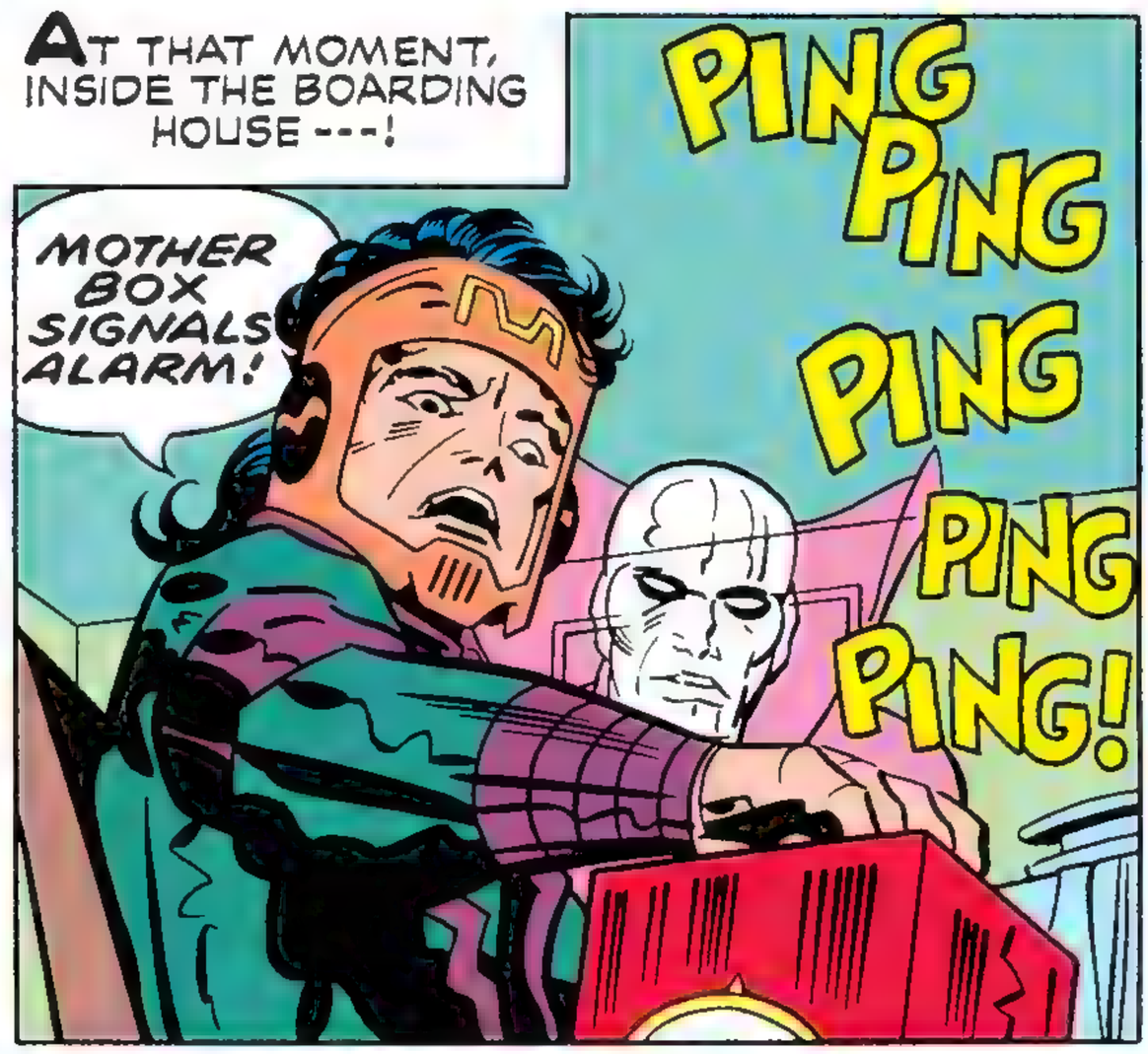
HIS CAPTIVE IS ***COOPERATIVE*** AND ***MEEK!*** HE WAITS AS HIS ABDUCTOR SIGNALS SKYWARD--- A STRANGE, GRIPPING DEVICE IS LOWERED FROM ABOVE---AND QUICKLY MOUNTED---

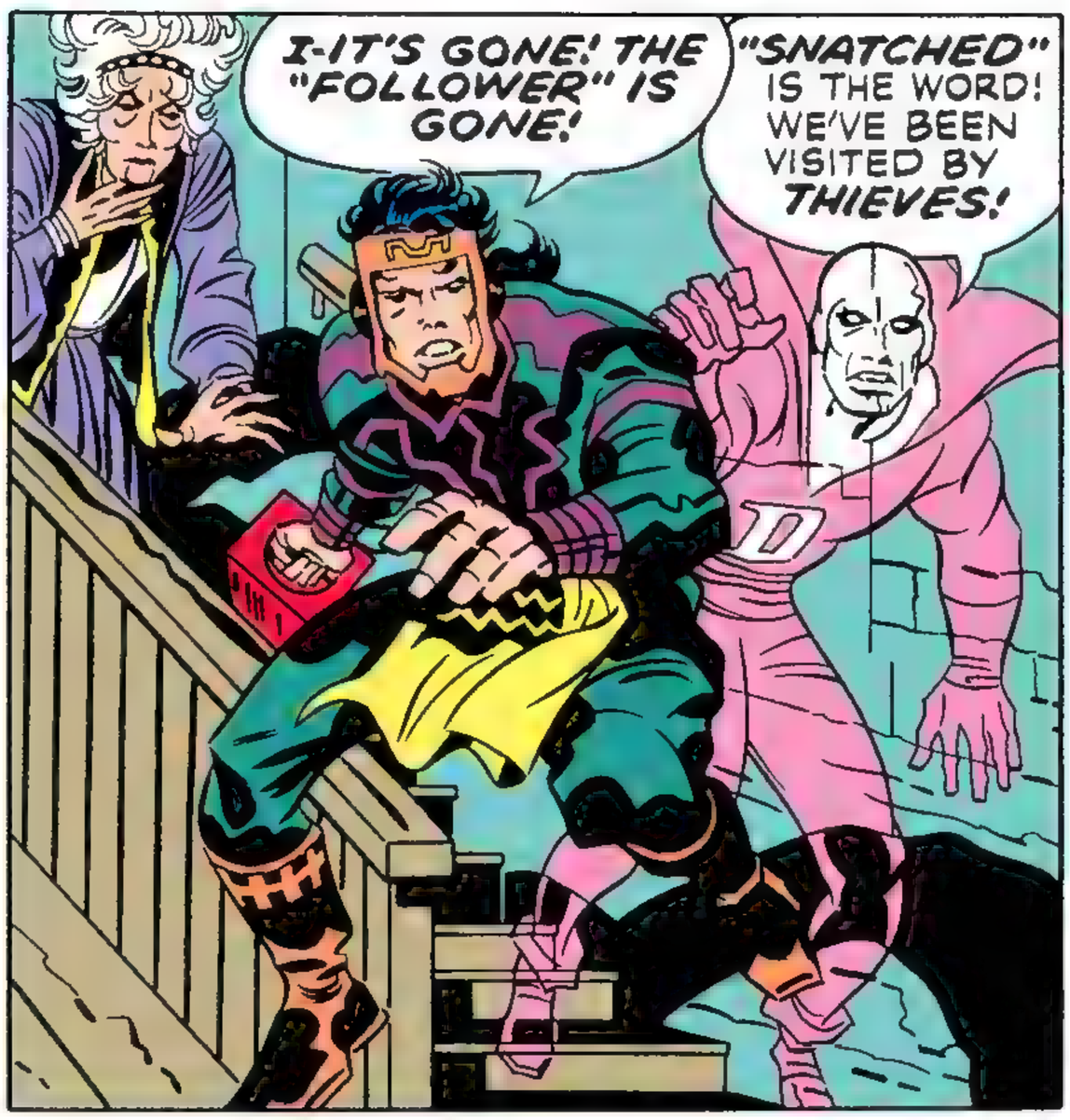


THE TWO ARE ***HASTILY*** HAULED UP INTO THE DARK MID-SECTION OF A RADICAL AIRCRAFT!

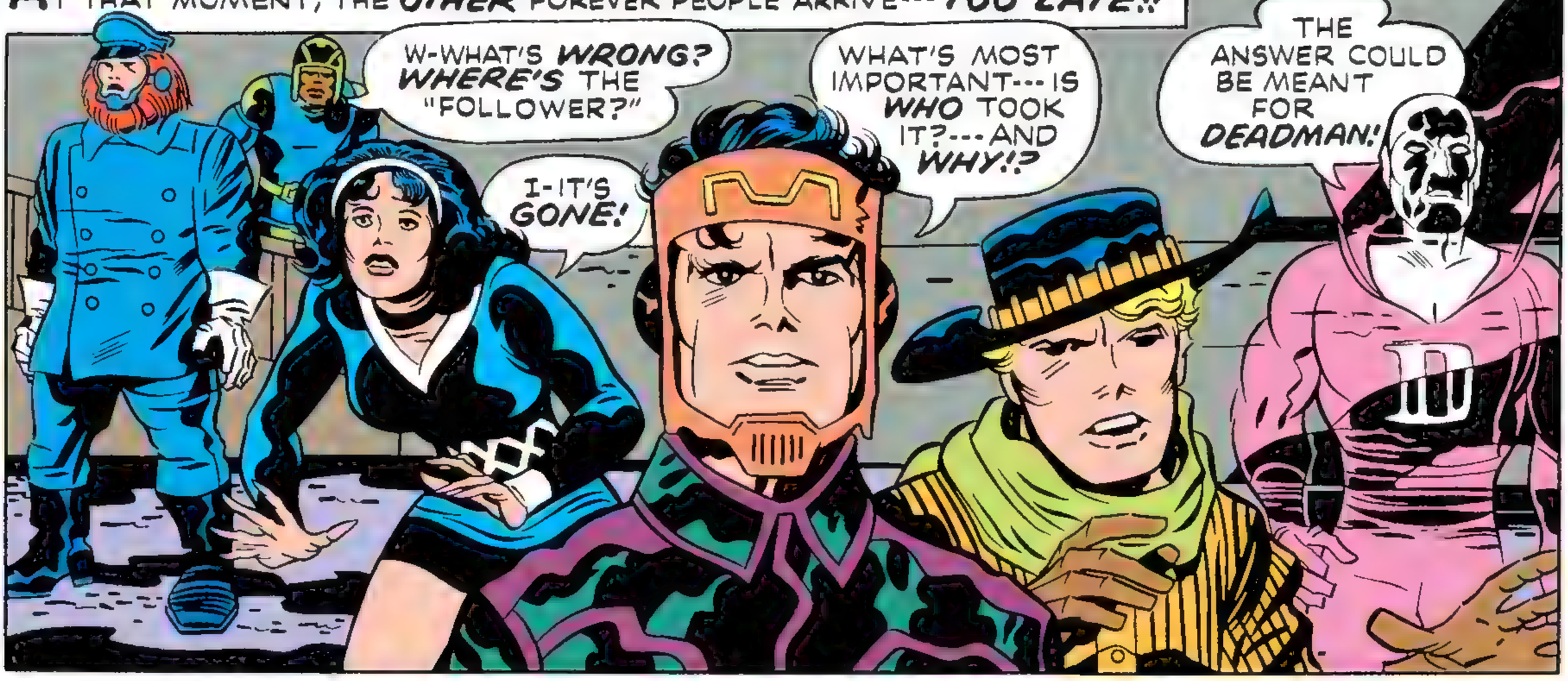


AT THAT MOMENT, INSIDE THE BOARDING HOUSE ---!

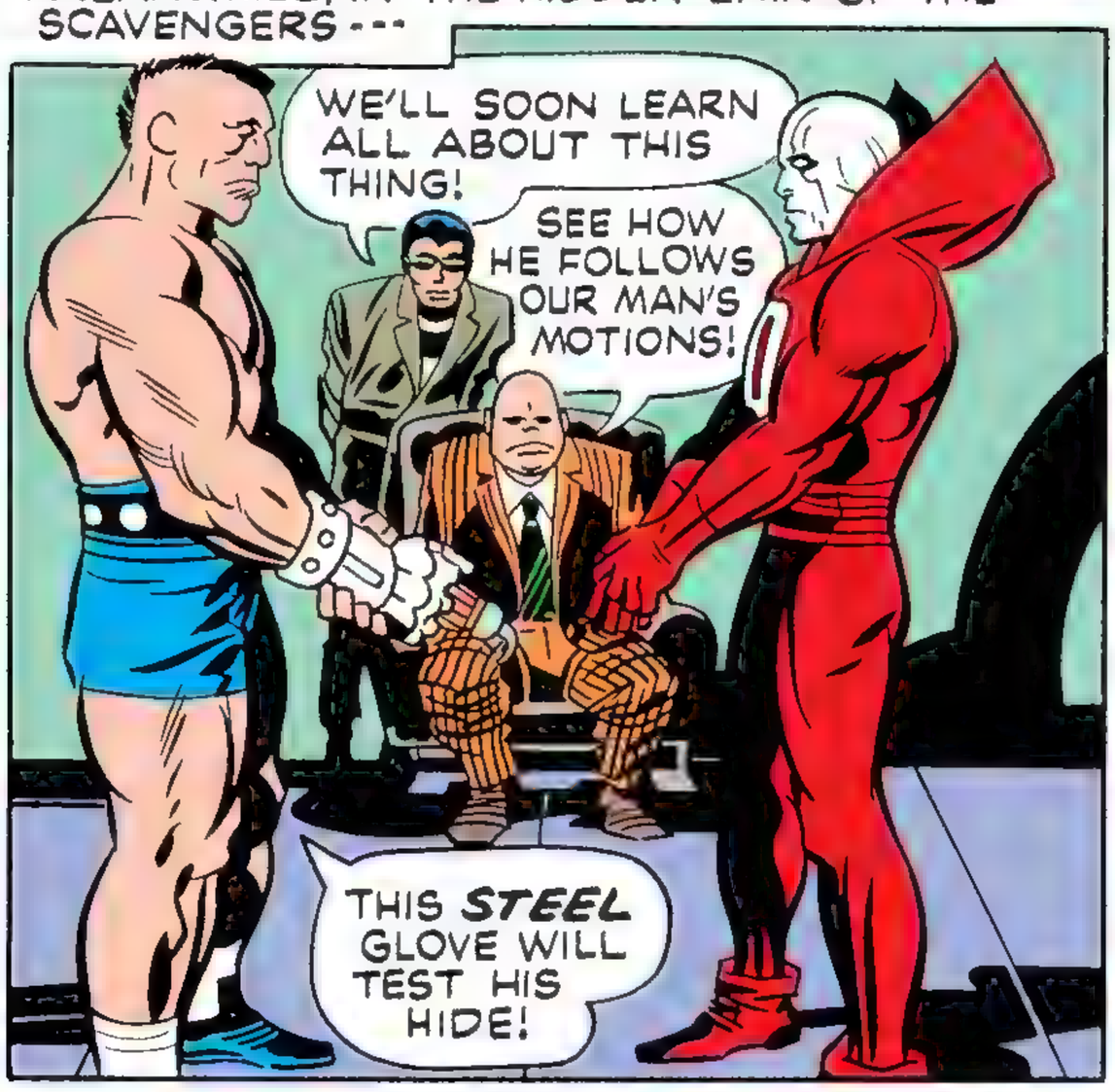


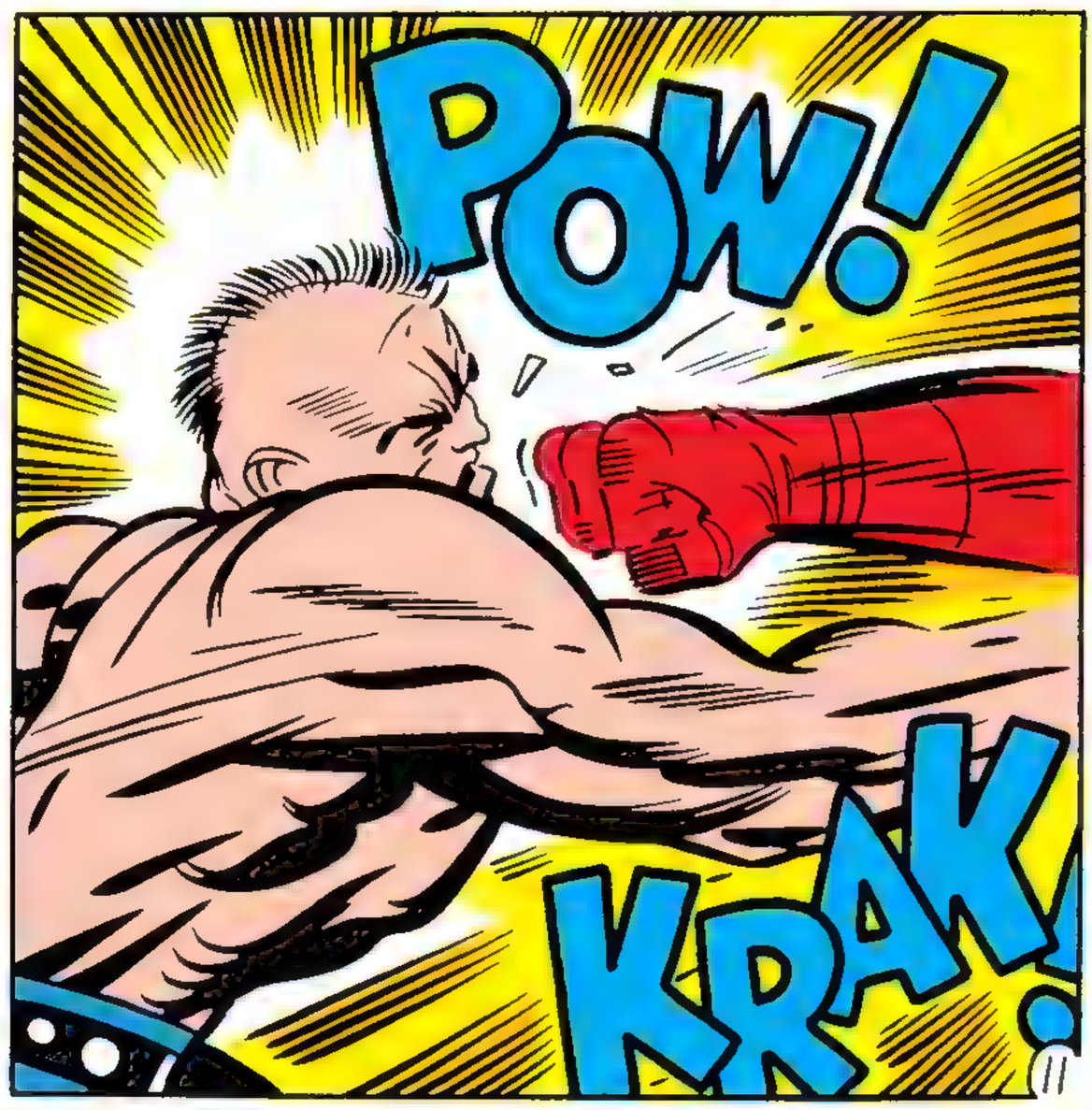


AT THAT MOMENT, THE OTHER FOREVER PEOPLE ARRIVE---TOO LATE!!



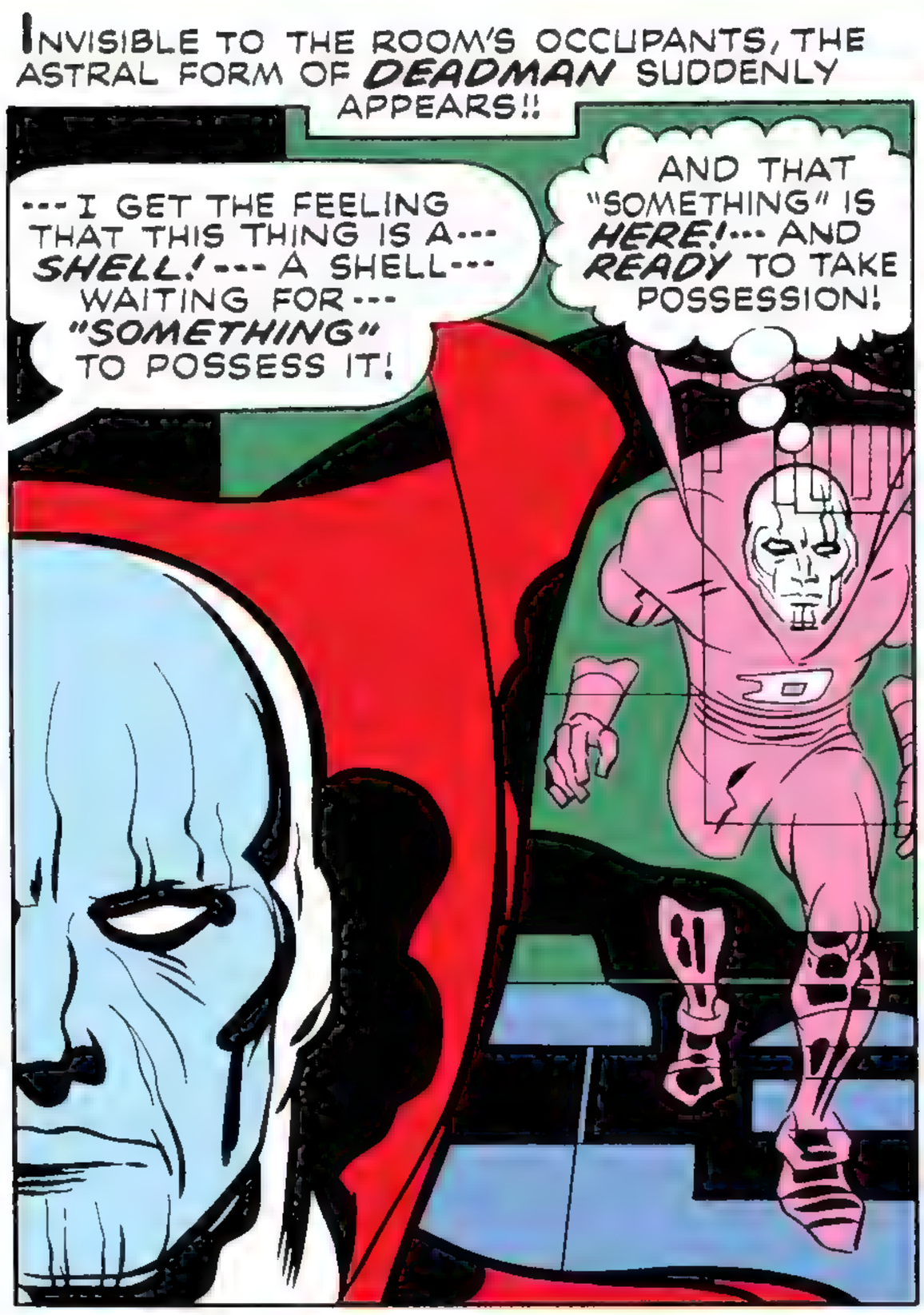
MEANWHILE, IN THE HIDDEN LAIR OF THE SCAVENGERS---



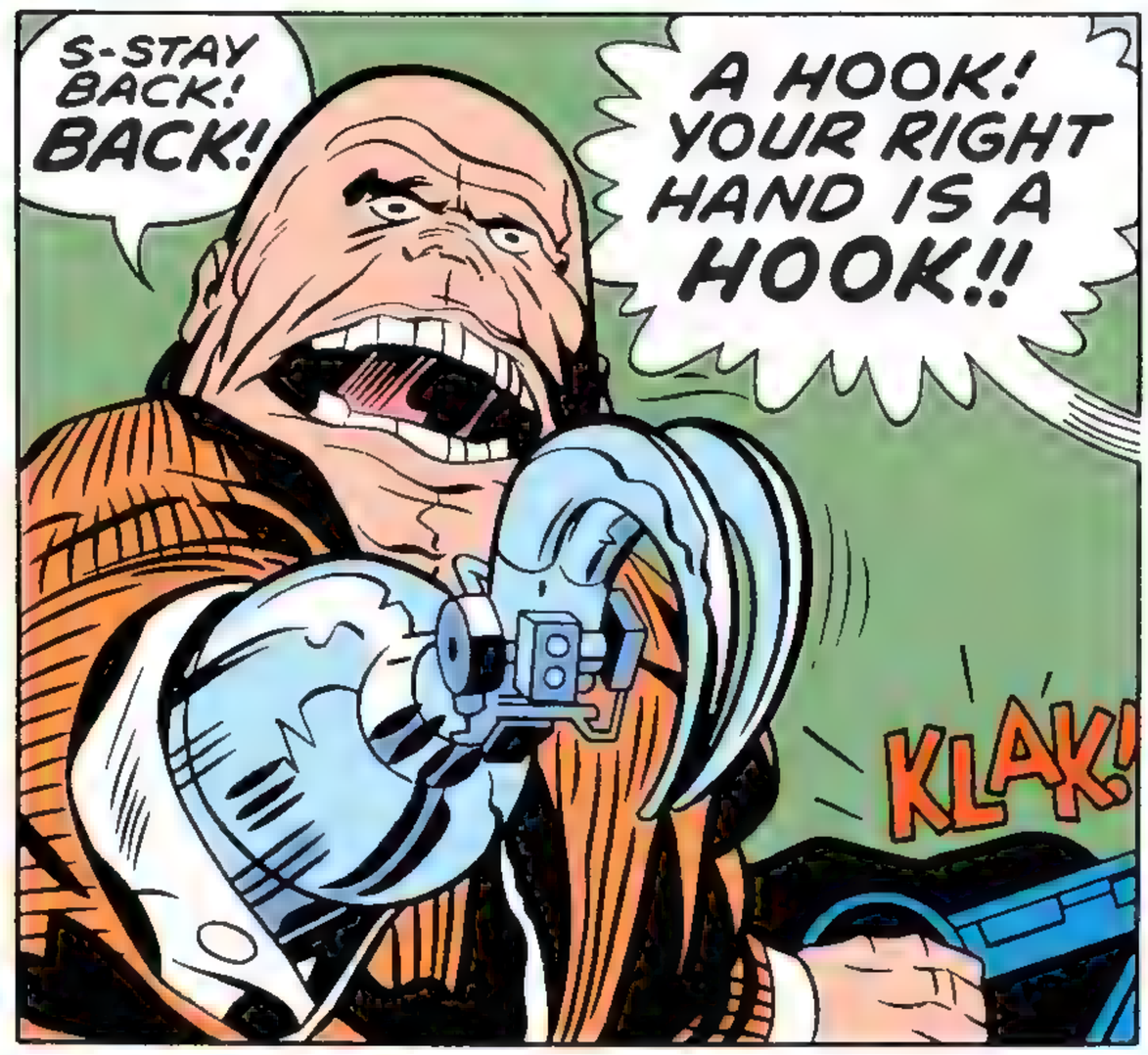


HOLD IT, FOLLOWER!
DID YOU SEE THAT, DIRECTOR? HE REACTS LIKE A MIRROR-IMAGE! ONLY--- WITH THE POWER TO FLOOR AN ELEPHANT!
ASTOUNDING! BUT---WHY WAS HE CAST IN BOSTON BRAND'S IMAGE? THAT QUESTION BUGS ME, MANAGER!

---BECAUSE, I'M SMART ENOUGH TO BOUNCE AROUND A VARIETY OF POSSIBLE ANSWERS!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS ONE? IT'S CREEPY--- BUT, LISTEN---!


INVISIBLE TO THE ROOM'S OCCUPANTS, THE ASTRAL FORM OF DEADMAN SUDDENLY APPEARS!!
---I GET THE FEELING THAT THIS THING IS A--- SHELL! --- A SHELL--- WAITING FOR--- "SOMETHING" TO POSSESS IT!
AND THAT "SOMETHING" IS HERE!--- AND READY TO TAKE POSSESSION!

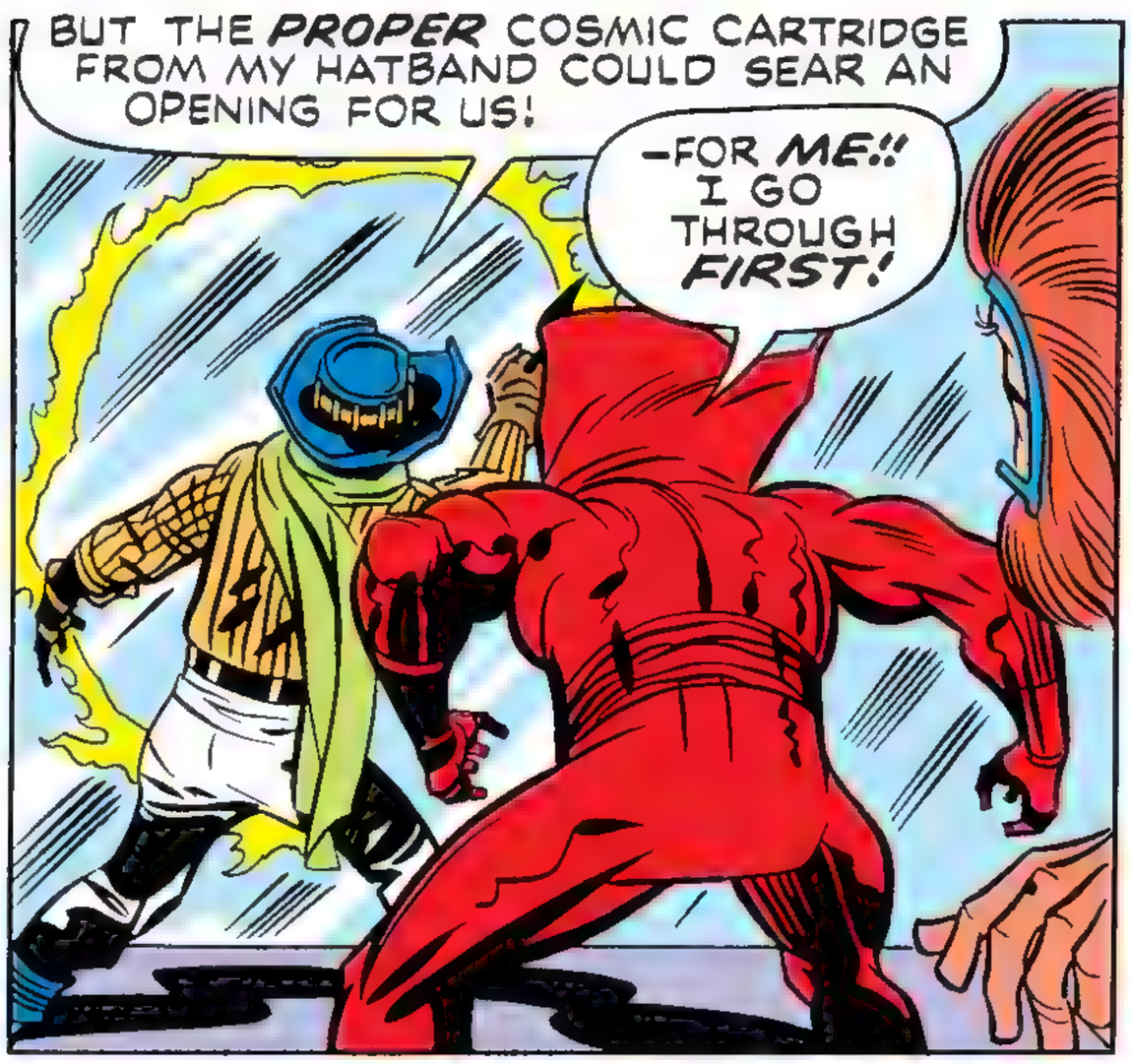
FOLLOWER--- IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE--- WE ARE ONE!!
MANAGER, I WANT THIS THING DESTROYED! USE THE "HAND-LASER" WE HIJACKED FROM THAT LAB LAST WEEK!
AS YOU SAY, DIRECTOR!
12

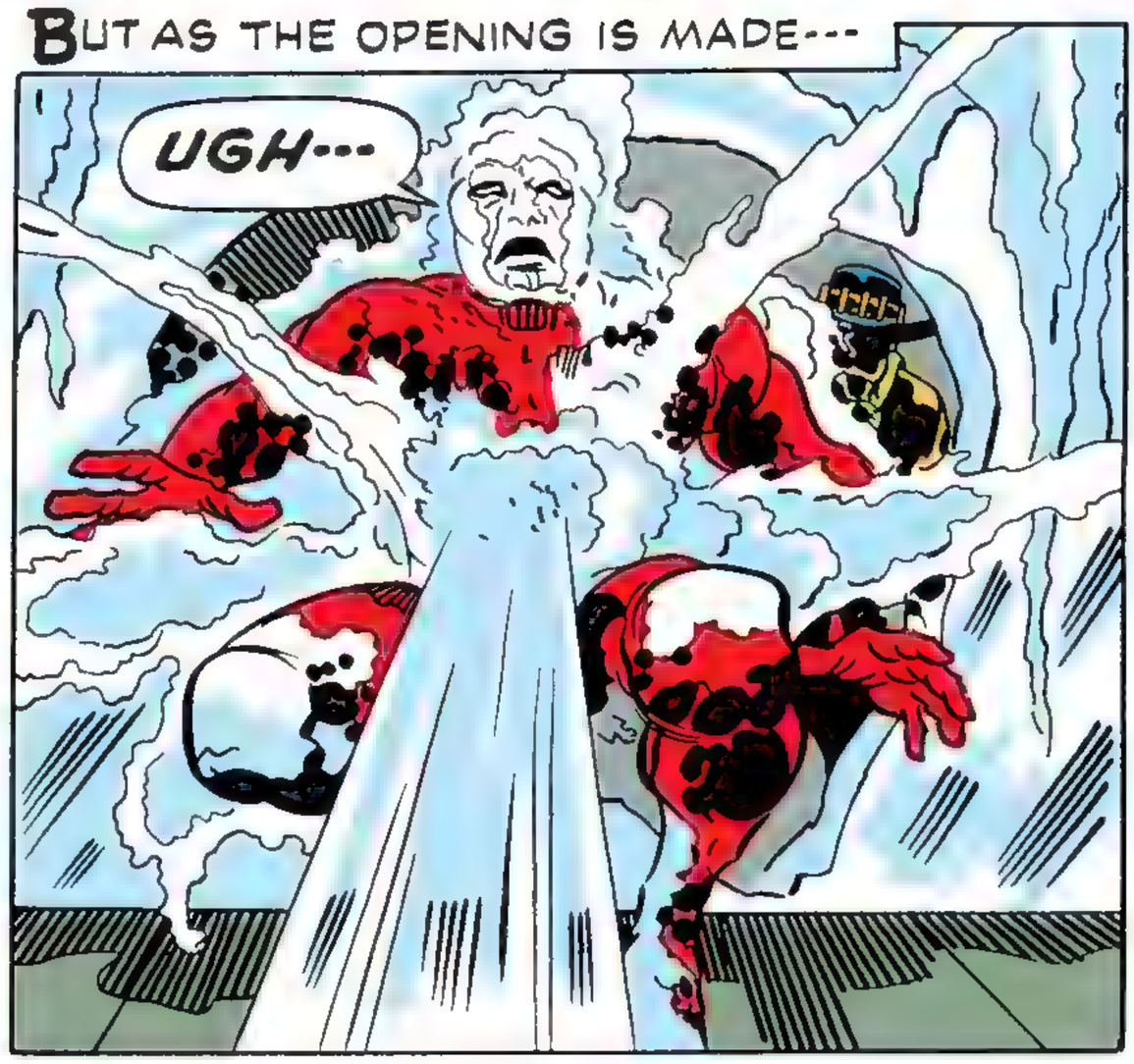


AS THE DIRECTOR PULLS A SWITCH, A HUGE WALL OF *STEEL-HARD* GLASS DESCENDS!

DEADMAN IS SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED BY THE SOUND OF CRUMBLING FROM AN OPPOSITE WALL!

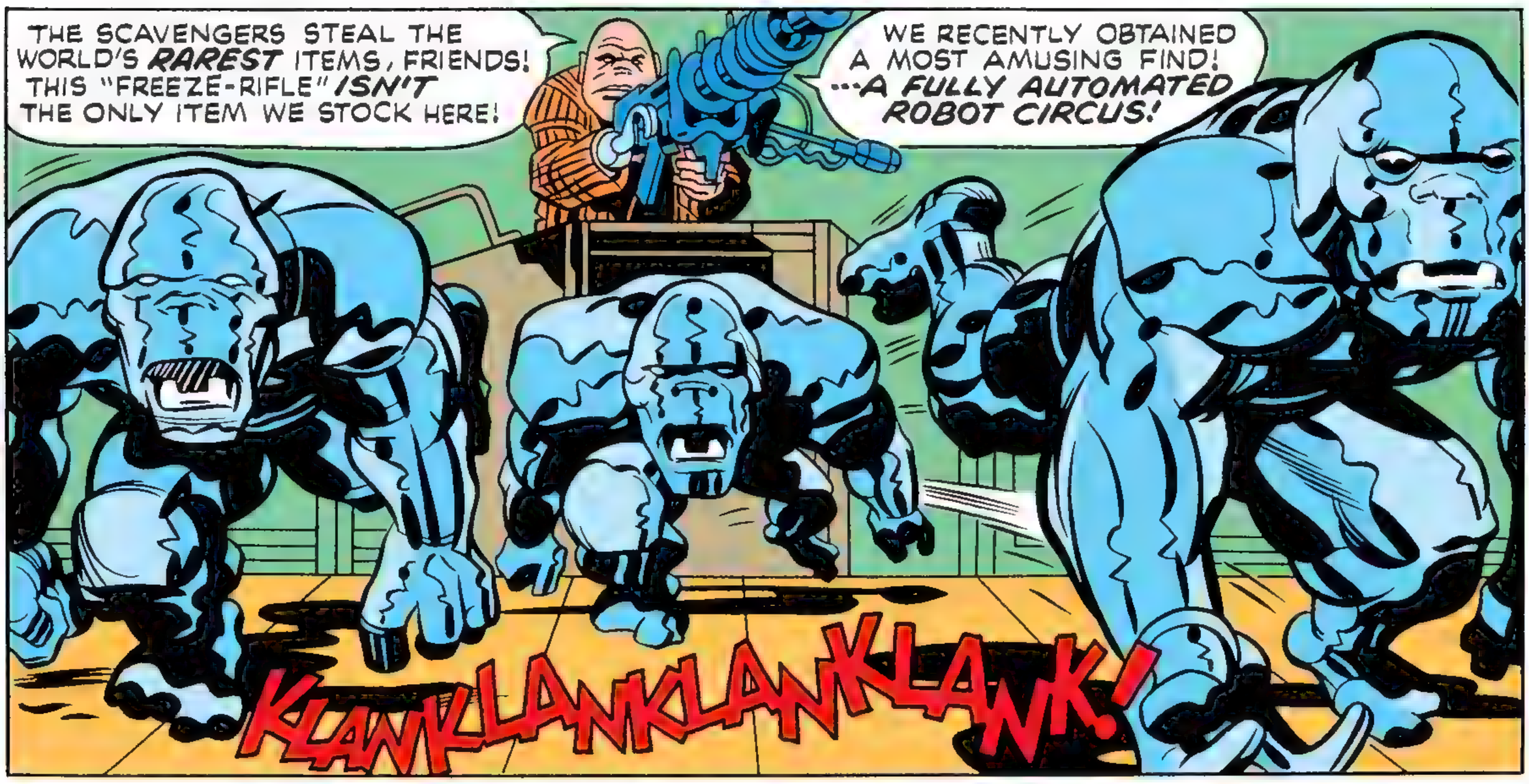
WELL! WELL! WELL! SO DEADMAN HAS FOUND AND "TAKEN OVER" THE FOLLOWER, HAS HE?
MORE THAN THAT! I'VE FOUND MY MURDERER! ---THE MAN WITH THE HOOK!!
IF HE'S BEHIND THAT GLASS WALL, IT'S EVIDENTLY RESISTANT TO GREAT PHYSICAL FORCE!

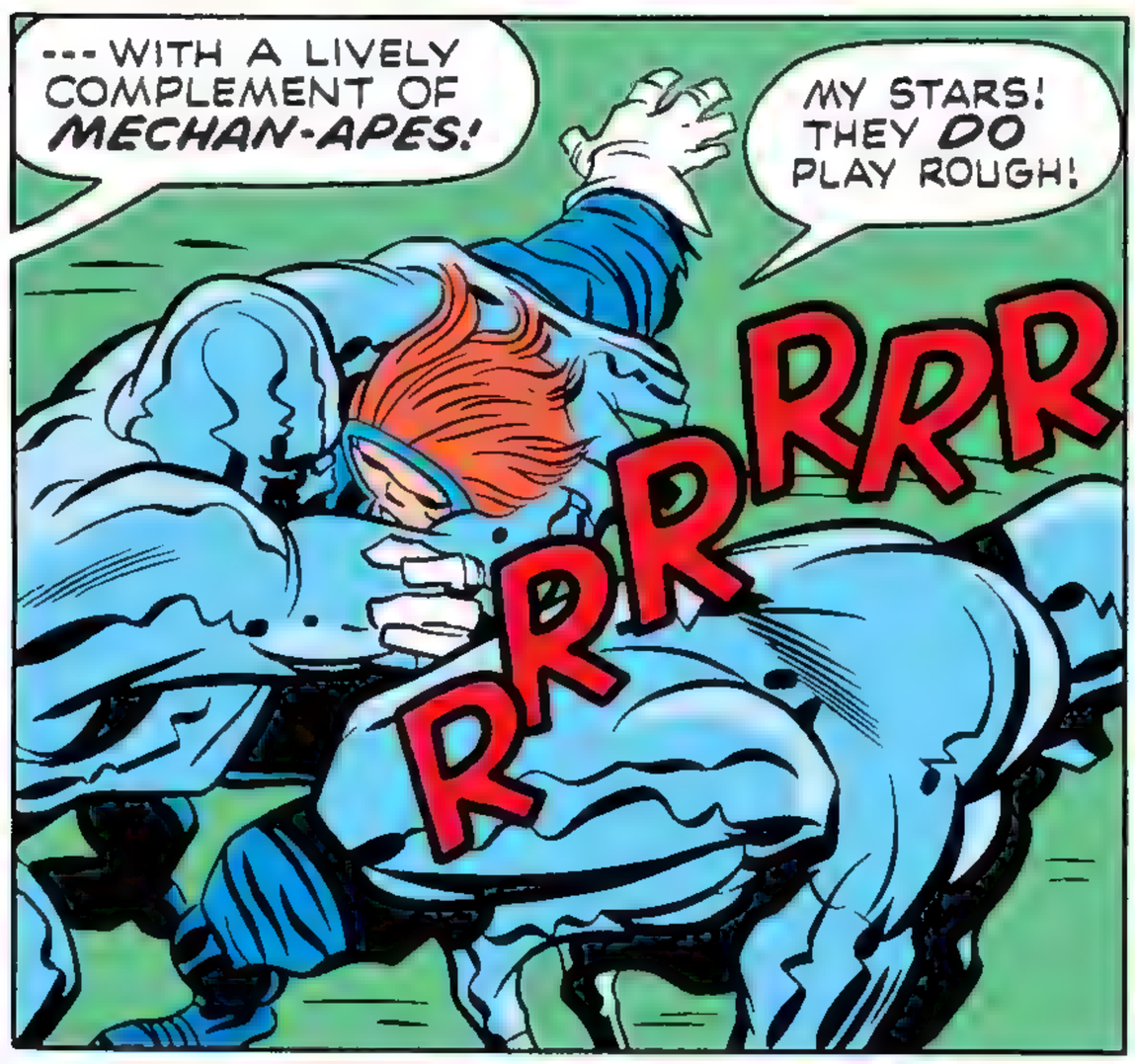

BUT THE PROPER COSMIC CARTRIDGE FROM MY HATBAND COULD SEAR AN OPENING FOR US!
-FOR ME!! I GO THROUGH FIRST!

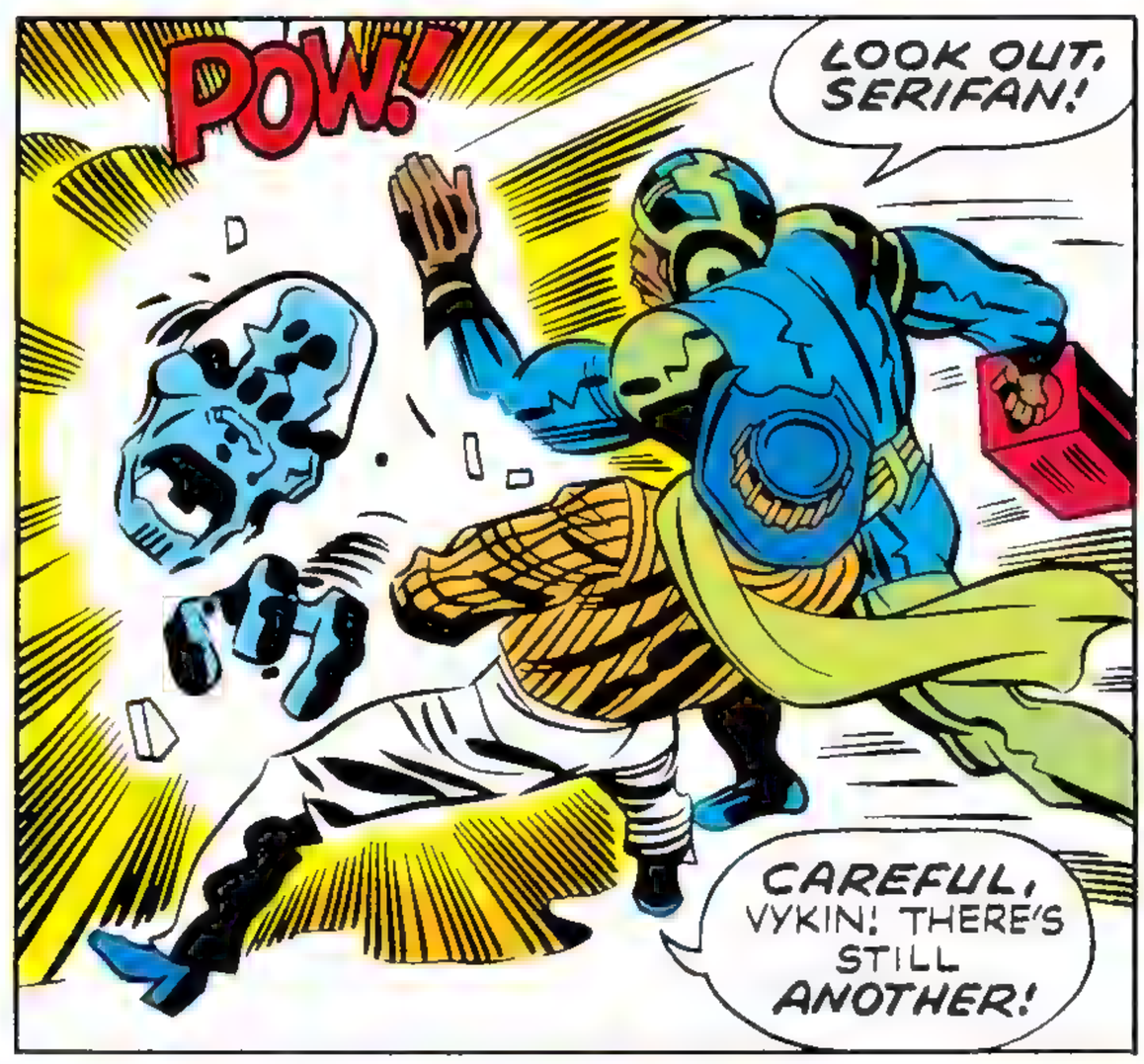

BUT AS THE OPENING IS MADE---
UGH---

DEADMAN HAS BEEN HIT BY A "FROST BEAM."
---AND AT FULL POWER!

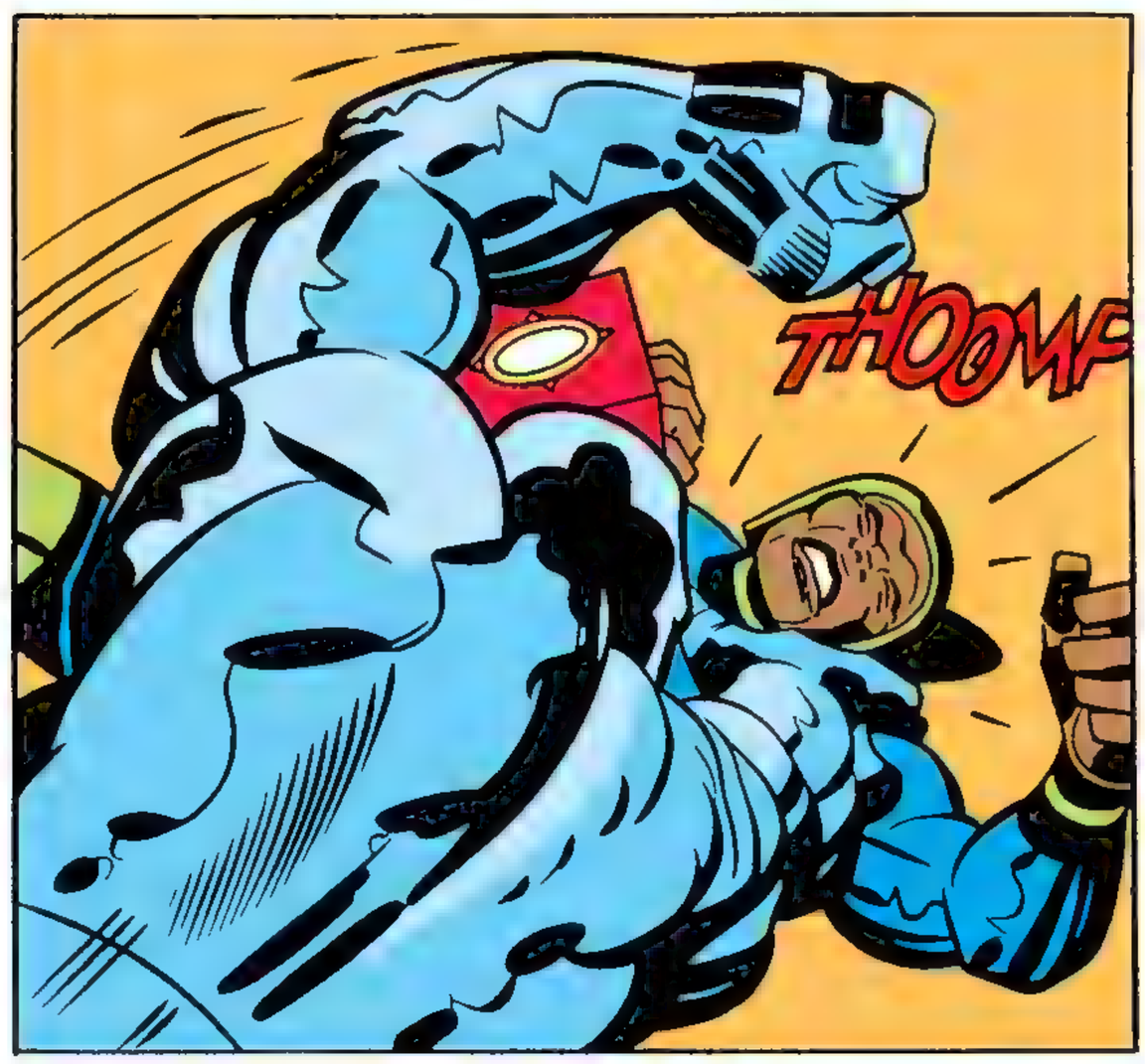
EARTHMEN ARE DEVELOPING WEAPONS THAT MAY ONE DAY RIVAL THE MIGHT OF THE GODS!!
SEE THE LOOK ON THAT FACE! DEADMAN'S VERY ATOMS HAVE BEEN LOCKED TO THAT BODY, SO HE CAN'T LEAVE IT!
14





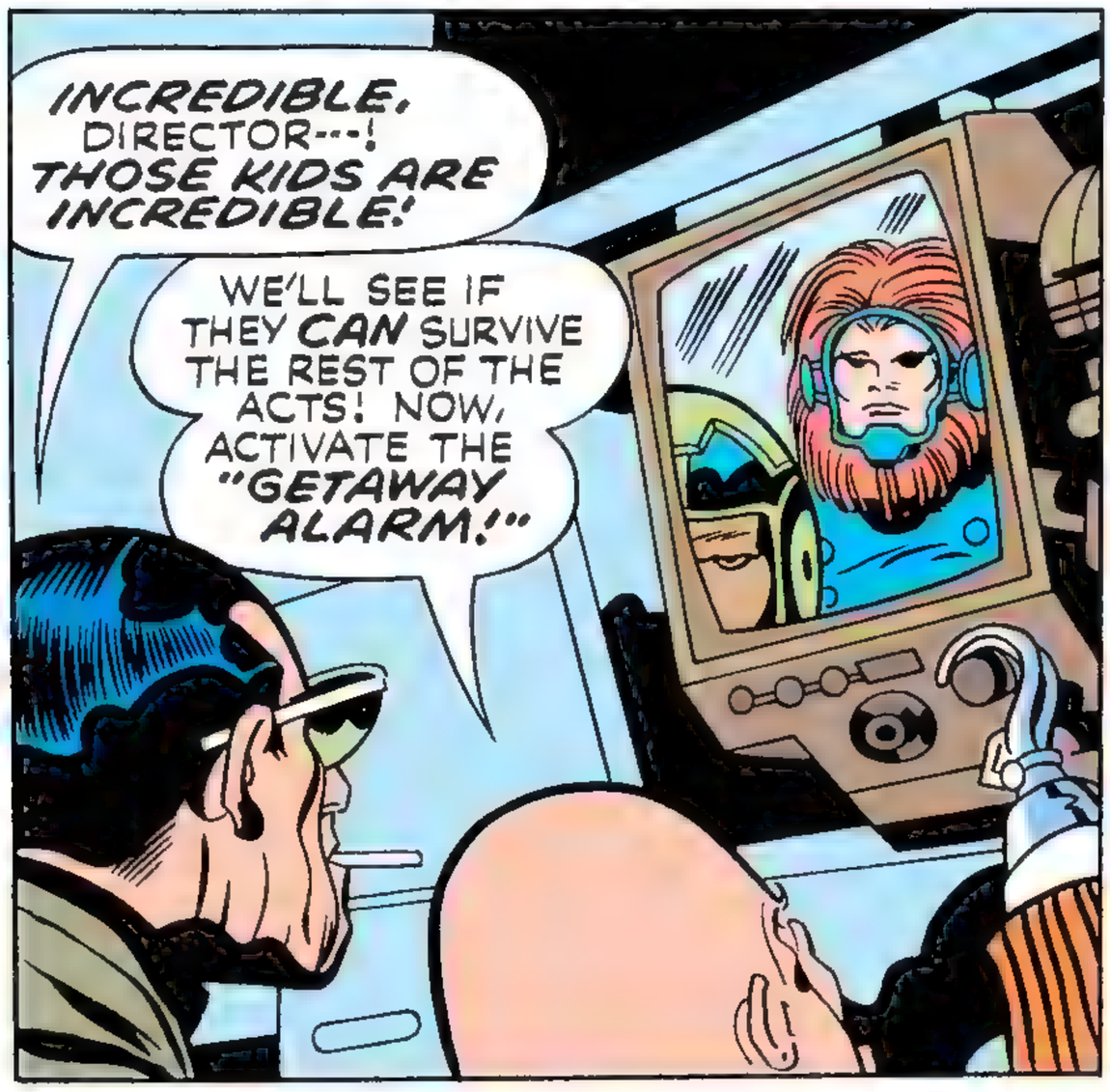


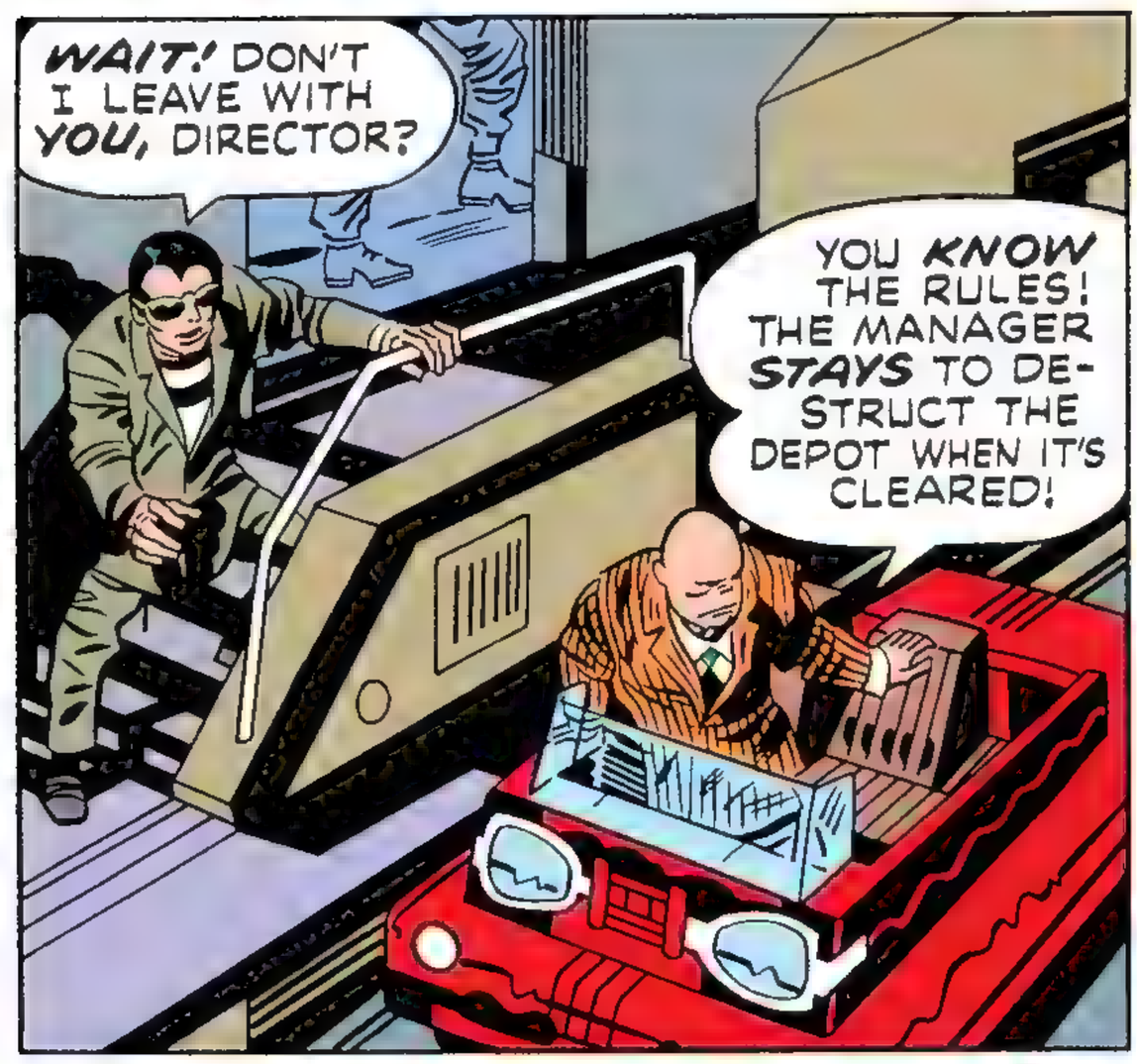
THE REMAINING METAL MONSTER CRASHES INTO VYKIN AND BEARS HIM DOWN!!

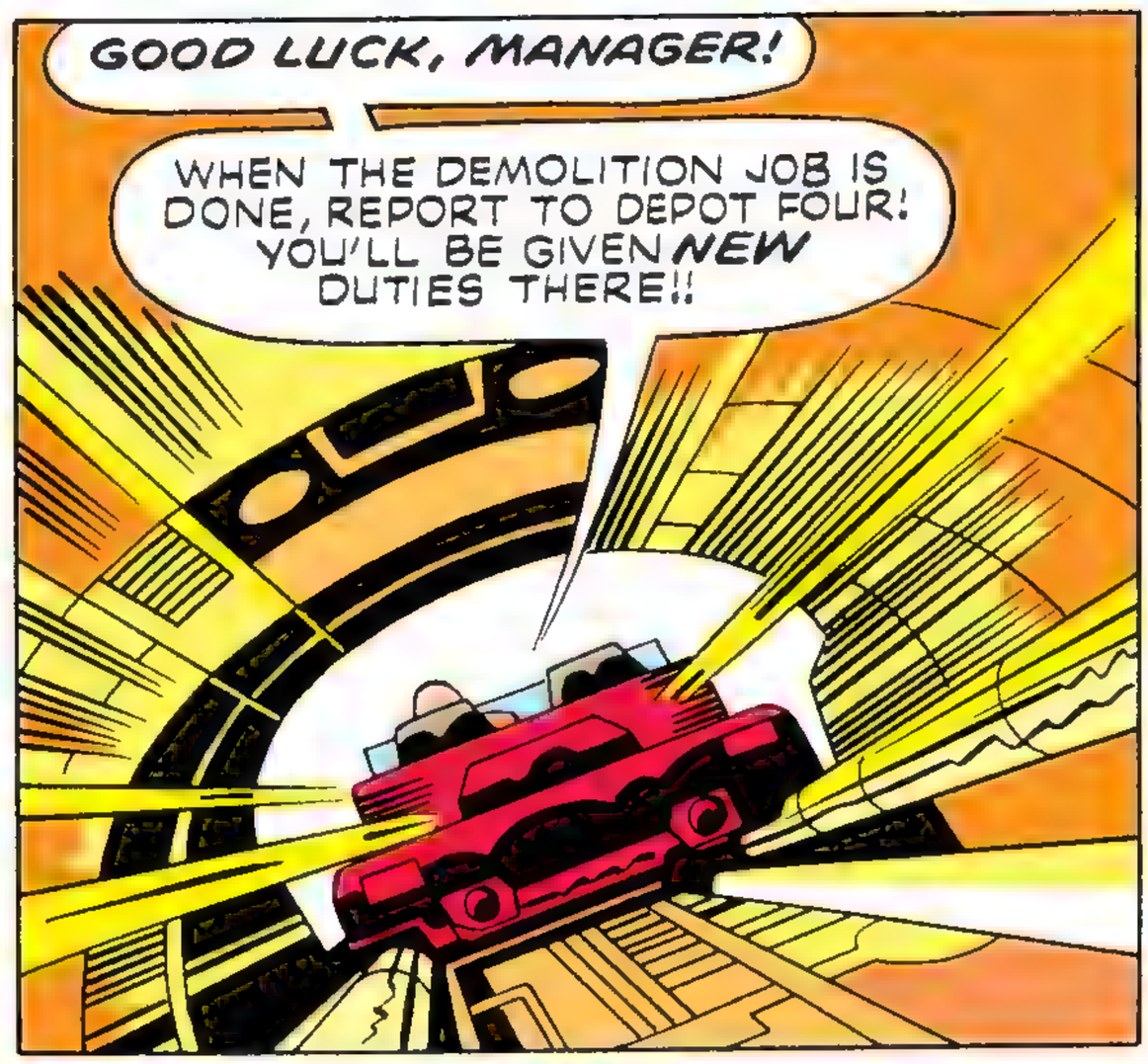


EVEN AS VYKIN'S *MASTERFUL* REFLEXES AND *SUPERB* STRENGTH GO INTO DESPERATE PLAY, THE PRESSURE OF BATTLE SUDDENLY *FADES!*

IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE SCAVENGERS DEPOT–







THE DIRECTOR HURLS HIMSELF FROM THE CAR IN *PANIC!*--- AS IT SPEEDS TOWARD THE OPEN, CAVERNOUS MOUTH OF A *GIANT* BEAST!

THAT THING! WHAT IS IT!!?

AAAAA!!

THEN---

OUR BIRD IS SHOCKED, BUT UNHURT!

MY ILLUSION SPARKED HIS *GREATEST* FEARS! I TRUST HE'S *SHAKEN* ENOUGH TO SURRENDER *WITHOUT* RESISTING!

W-WE'RE SURROUNDED!

MEANWHILE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TRACKS---

THE FOLLOWER'S BODY IS *REACTING* TO THIS INDUCTION CARTRIDGE! HE'S *THAWING* OUT!

UHHHH---

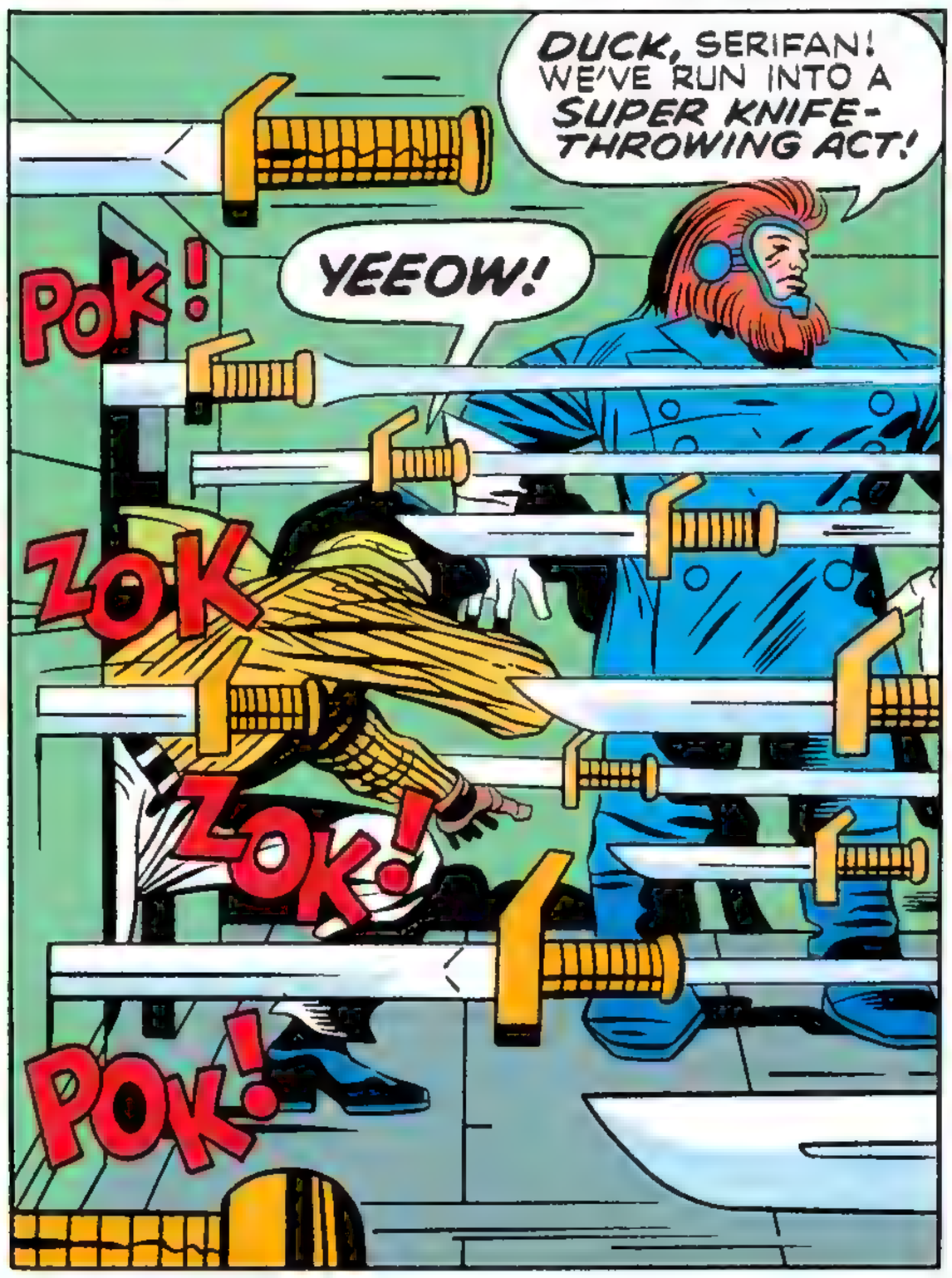
WELL, I SEEM TO HAVE *RESTORED* YOUR NORMAL BODY TEMPERATURE! HOW DO YOU FEEL-?

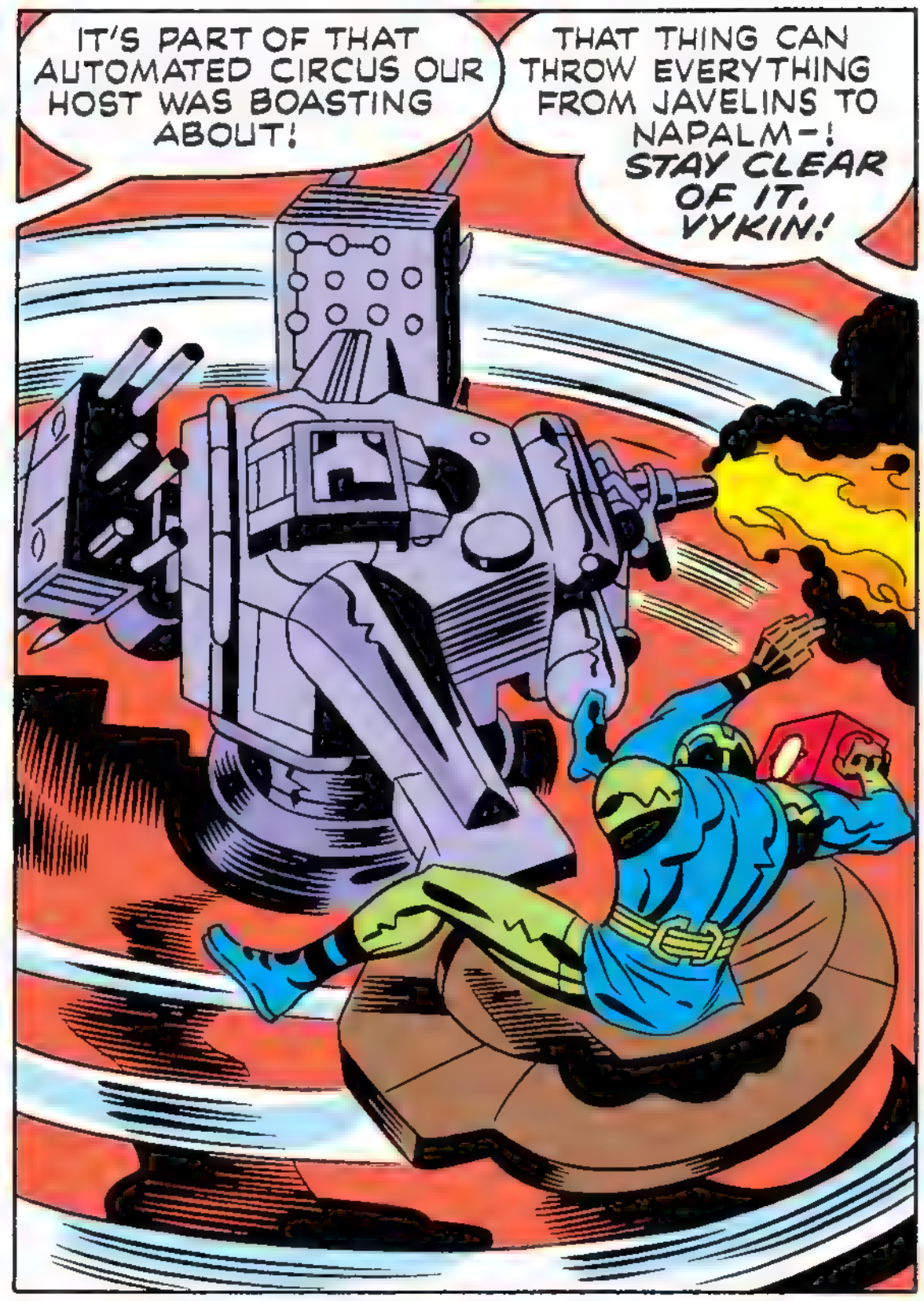
I-I FEEL *NOTHING!* I'M *NOT* THE FOLLOWER! ---JUST ITS *TENANT!*

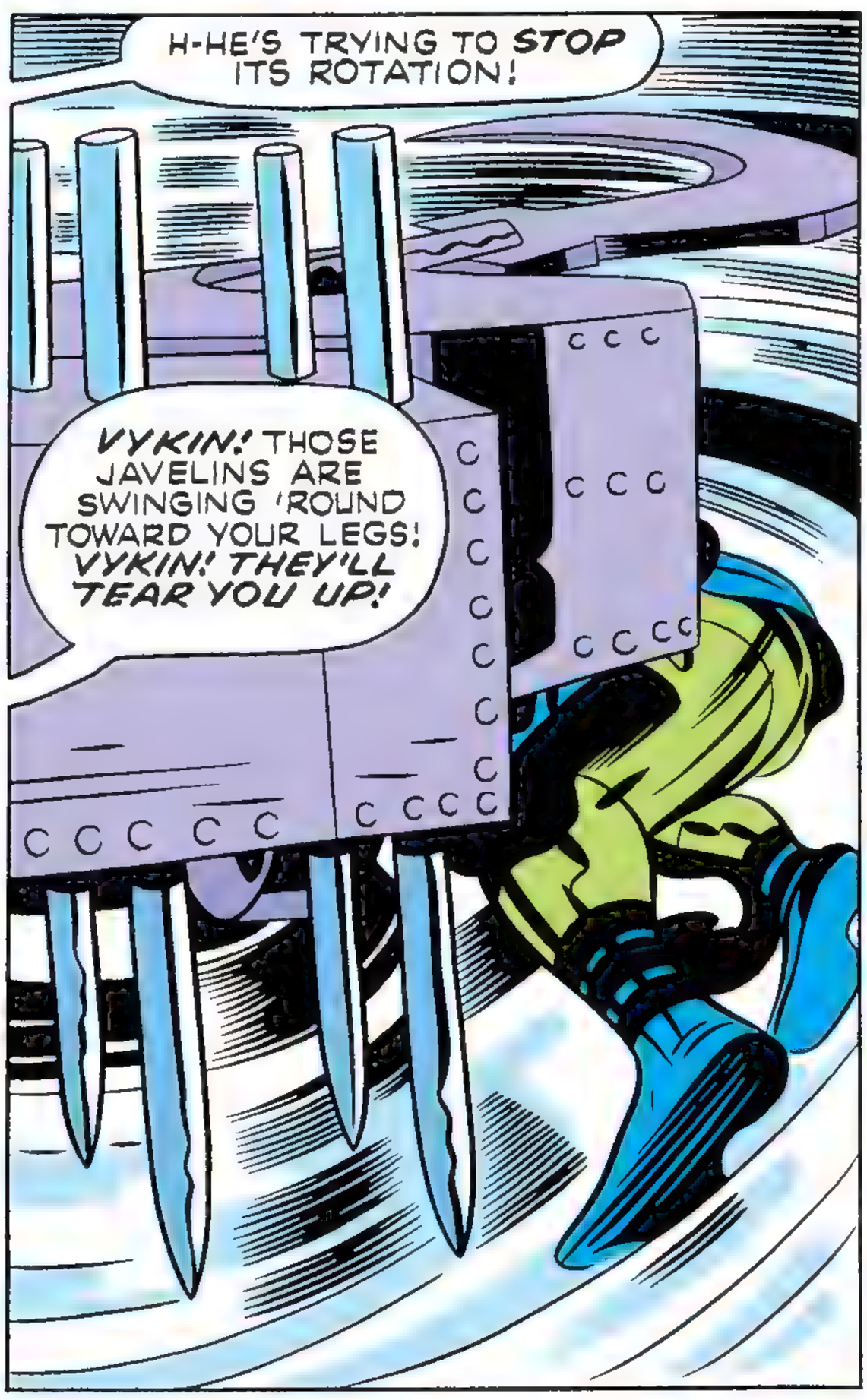
FANTASTIC! I'M A DEADMAN--- MOVING AN ORGANIC MACHINE THAT LOOKS LIKE ---*MYSELF!*

BIG BEAR AND VYKIN HAVE GONE INTO THE NEXT SECTION! AND I *DON'T* LIKE THE SOUNDS COMING OUT OF IT!

SERIFAN LUNGES INTO THE ADJOINING ROOM, ONLY TO CONFRONT A TERRIFYING SITUATION!

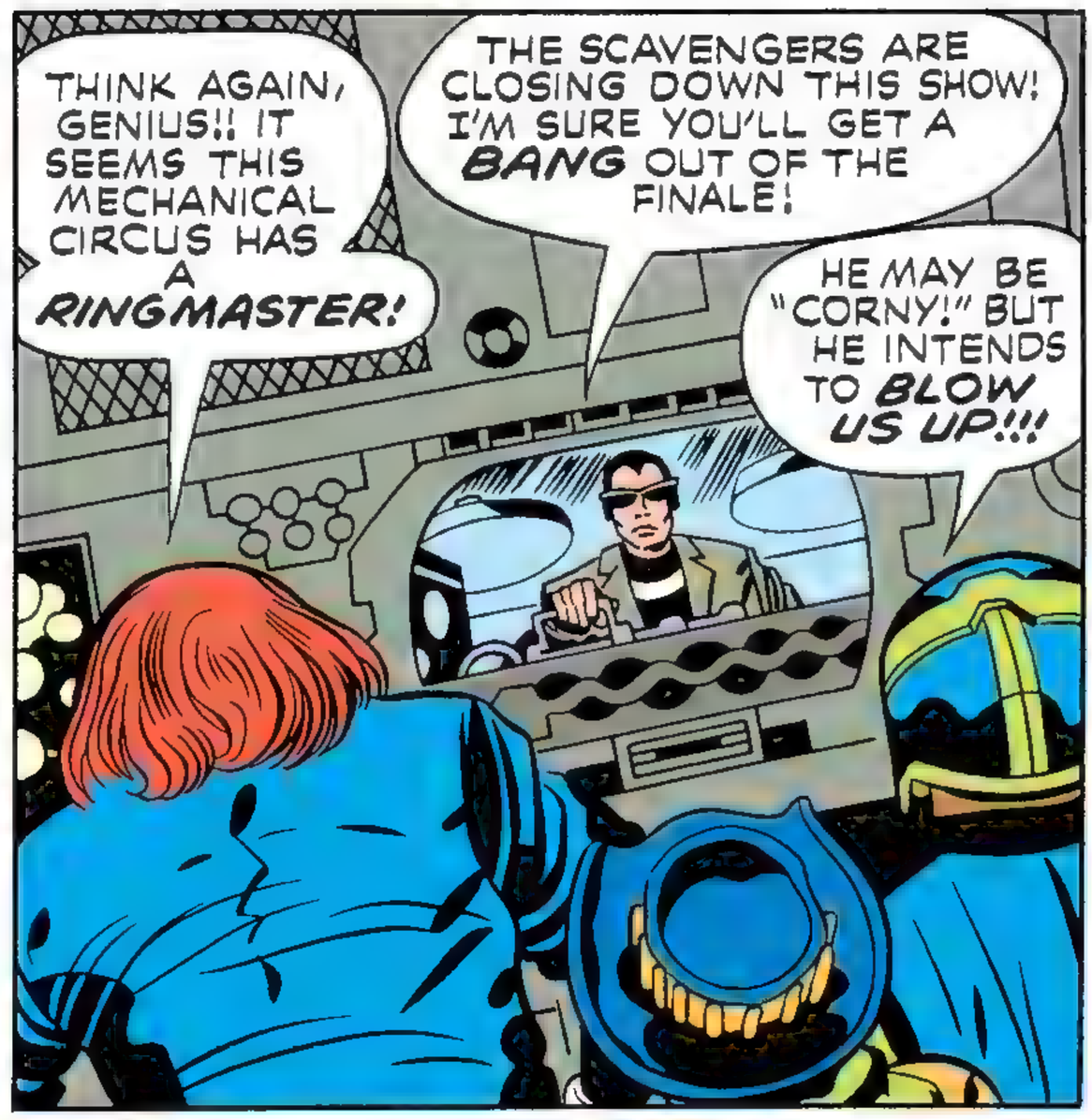


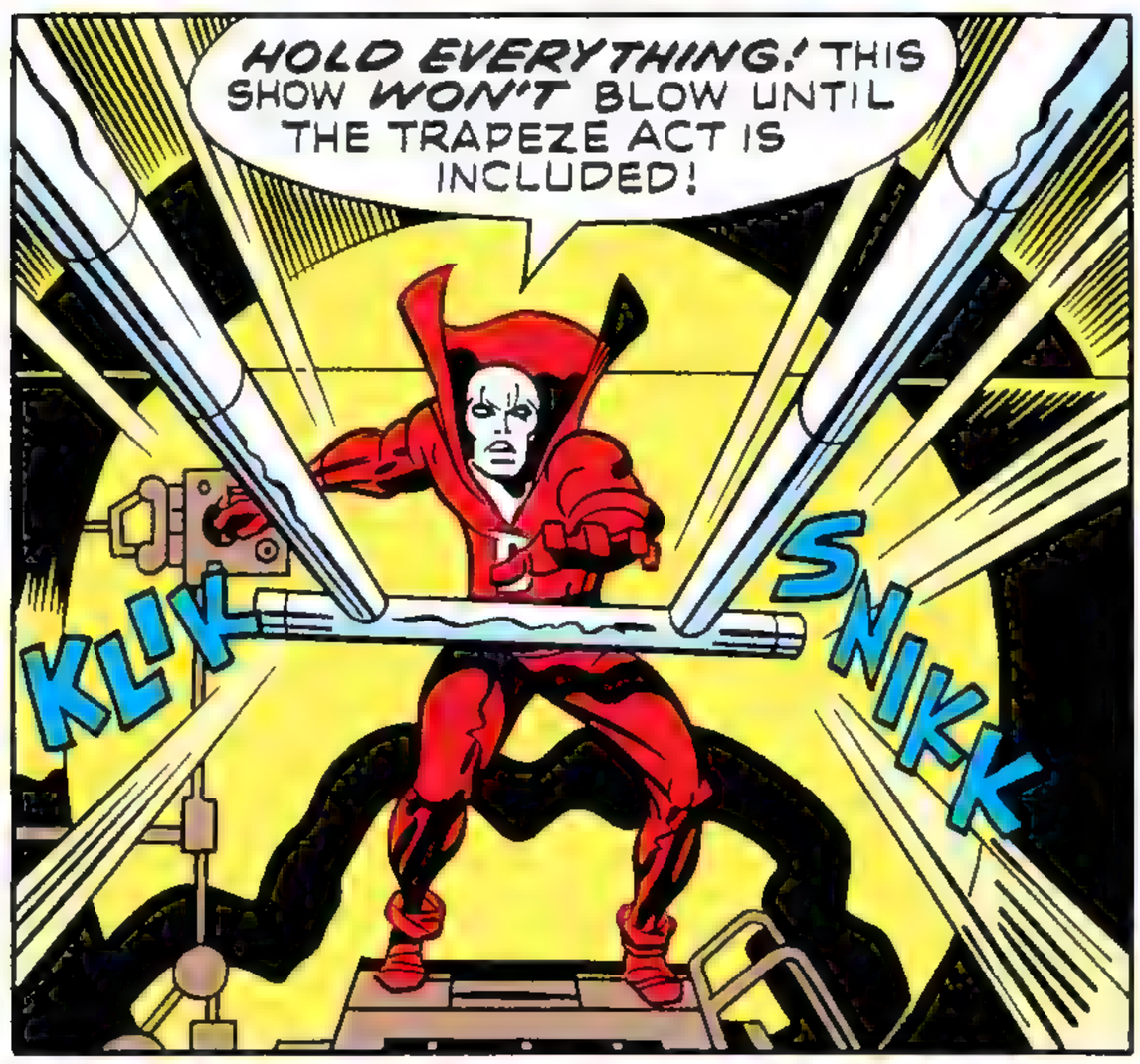


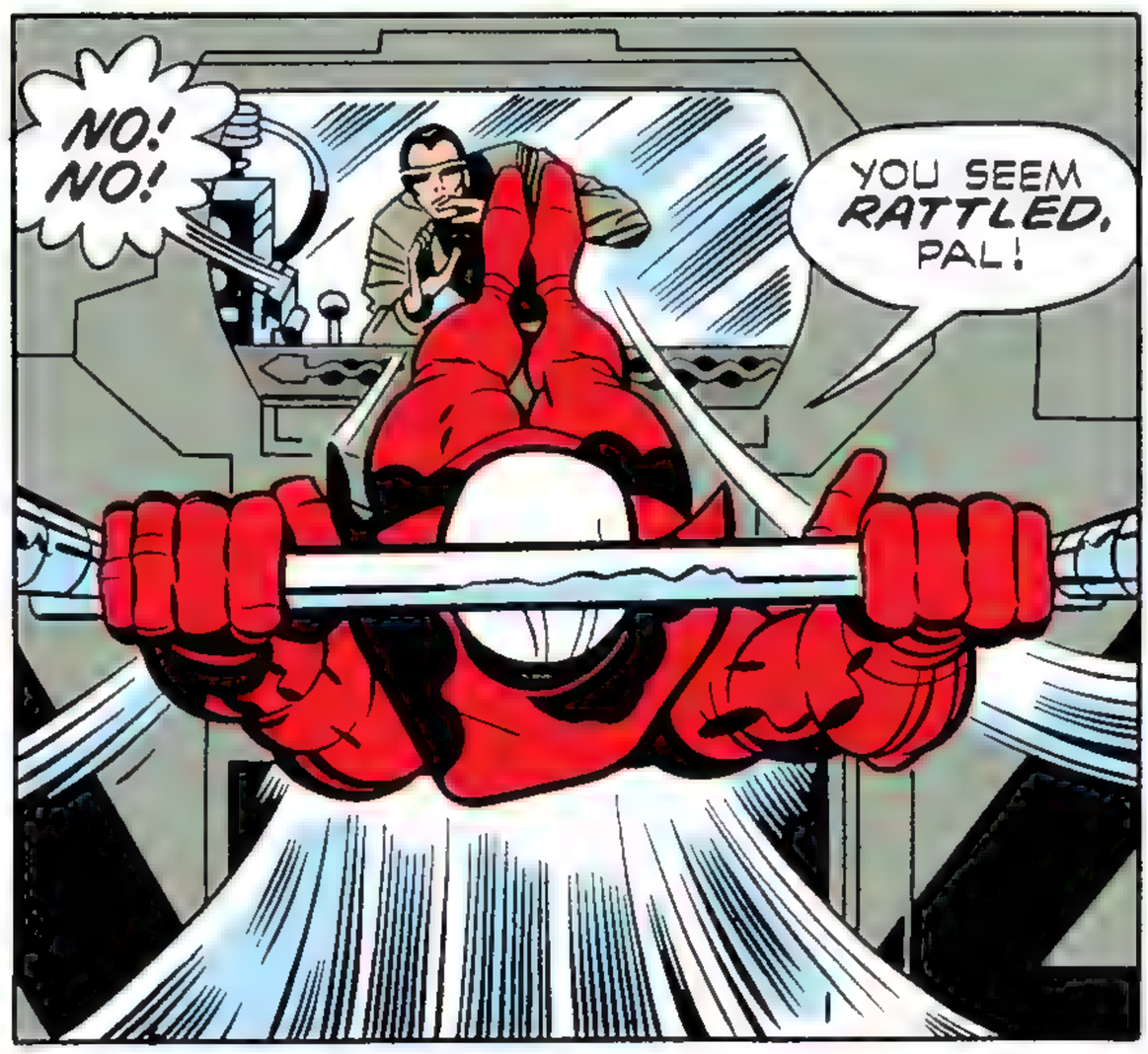


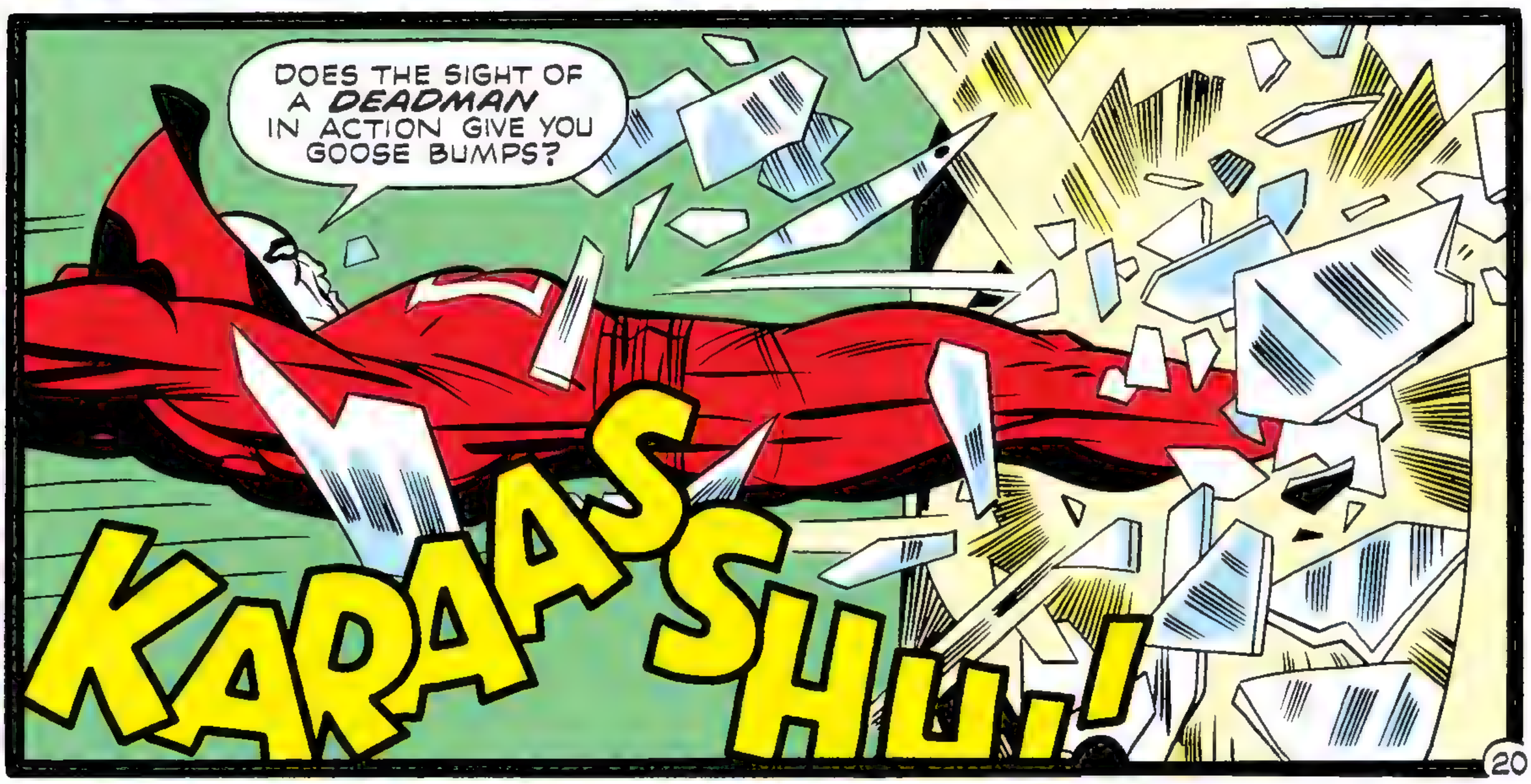
VYKIN'S POWERS MAKE HIM A MYSTIC NETWORK OF TECHNICAL ATTUNEMENT! IN ONE INSTANT ---HE KNOWS THE MACHINE! ---AND WHERE IT CAN BE HALTED!

THE JAVELINS ARE *UPON* VYKIN-! JUST AS THE REVOLVING MACHINE SHRIEKS TO A *HALT!*







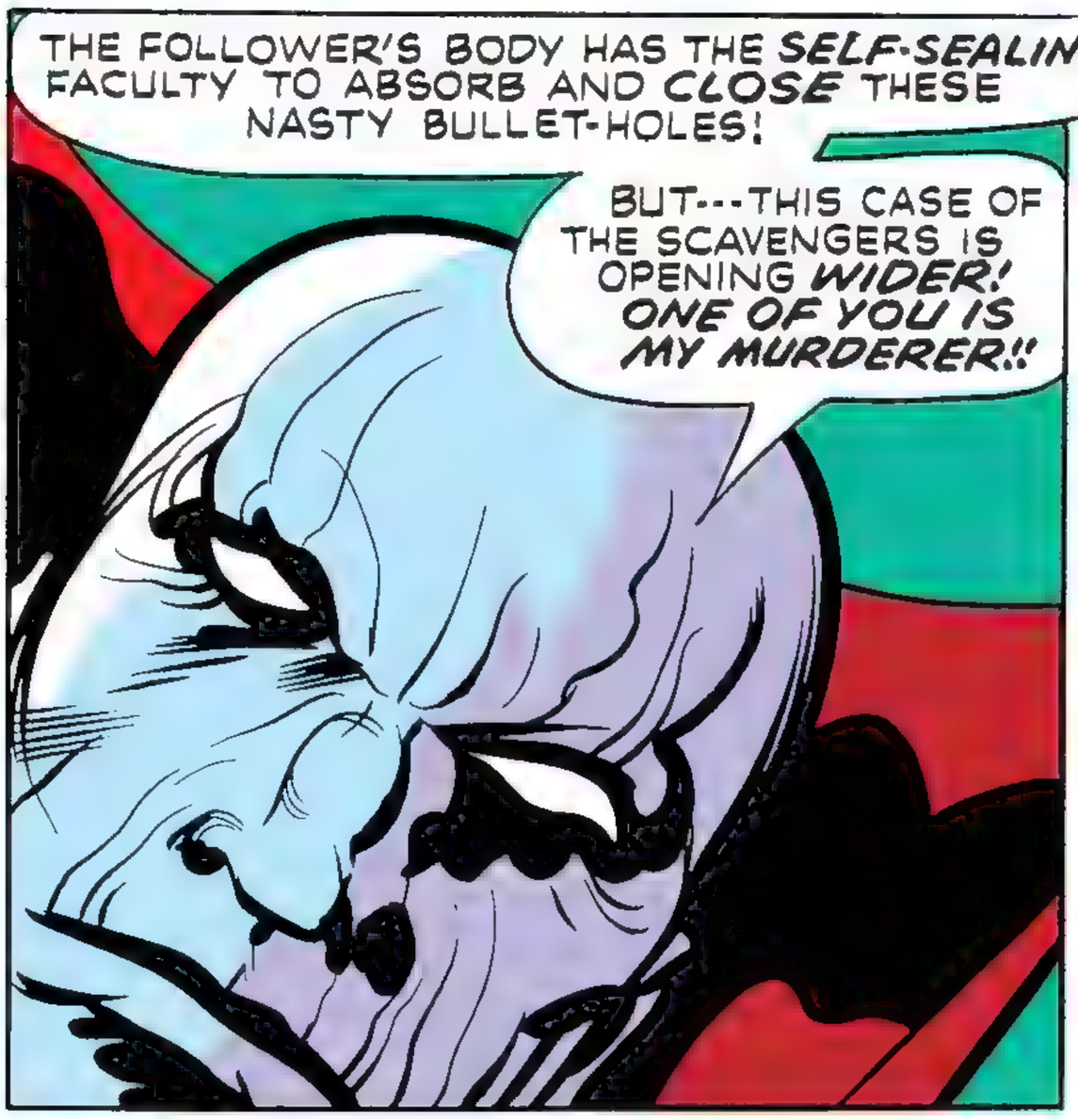


THIS SURE BEATS OPERATING IN SPIRIT FORM!
POW!

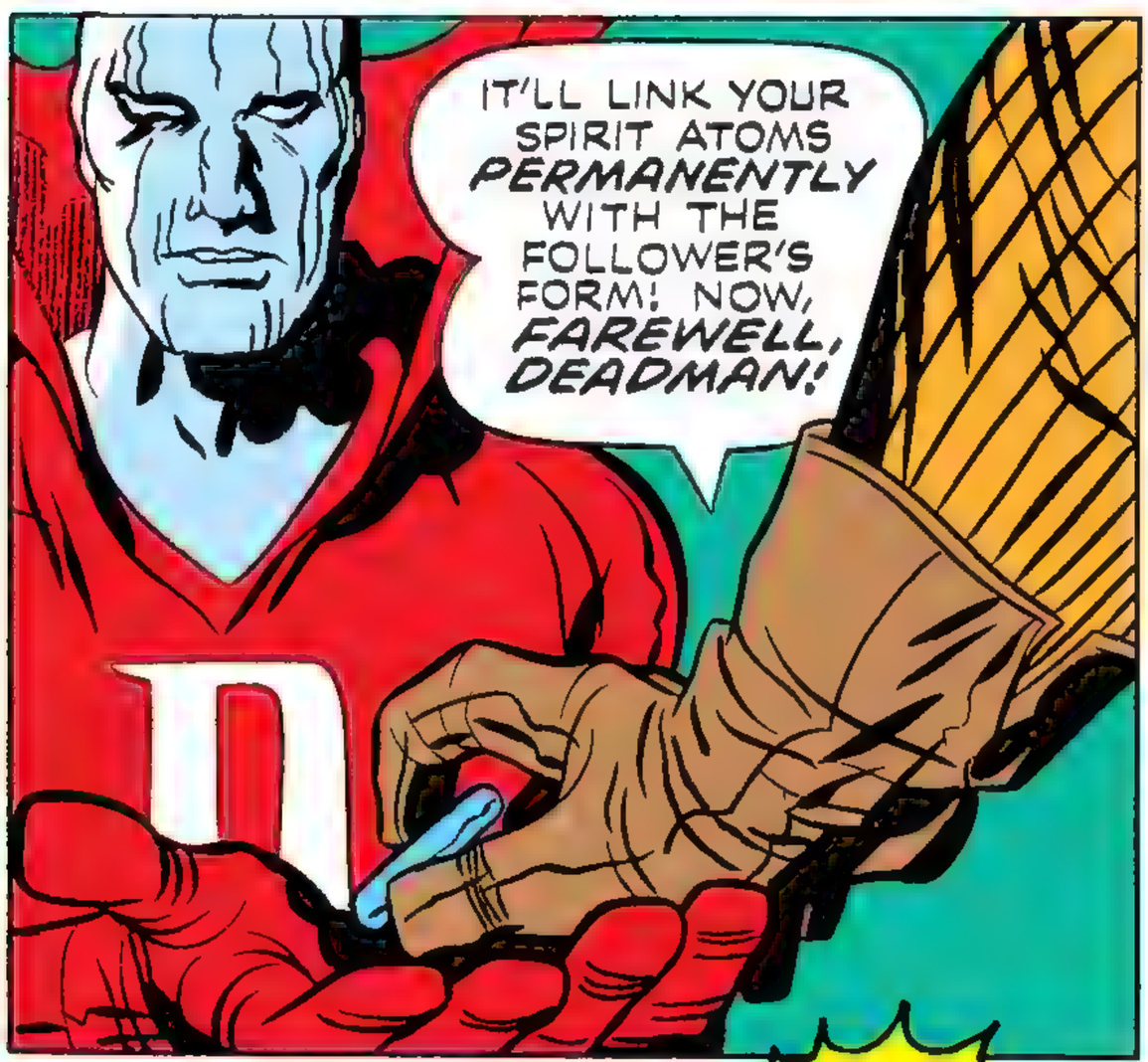
I THINK YOU'LL FIND IT MORE PEACEFUL AFTER I RETURN YOU TO THAT STATE!

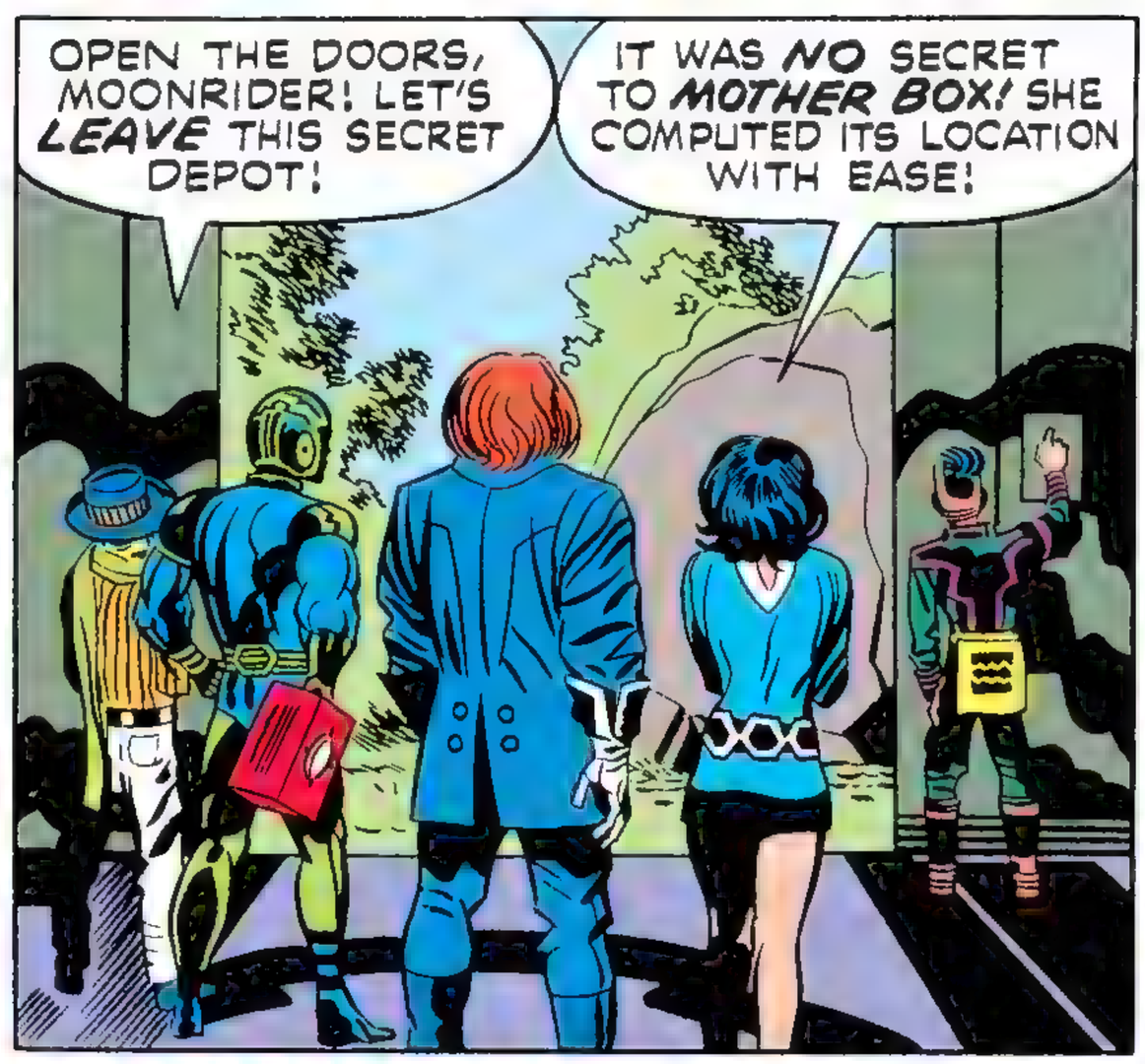
BAM BAM BAM BAM

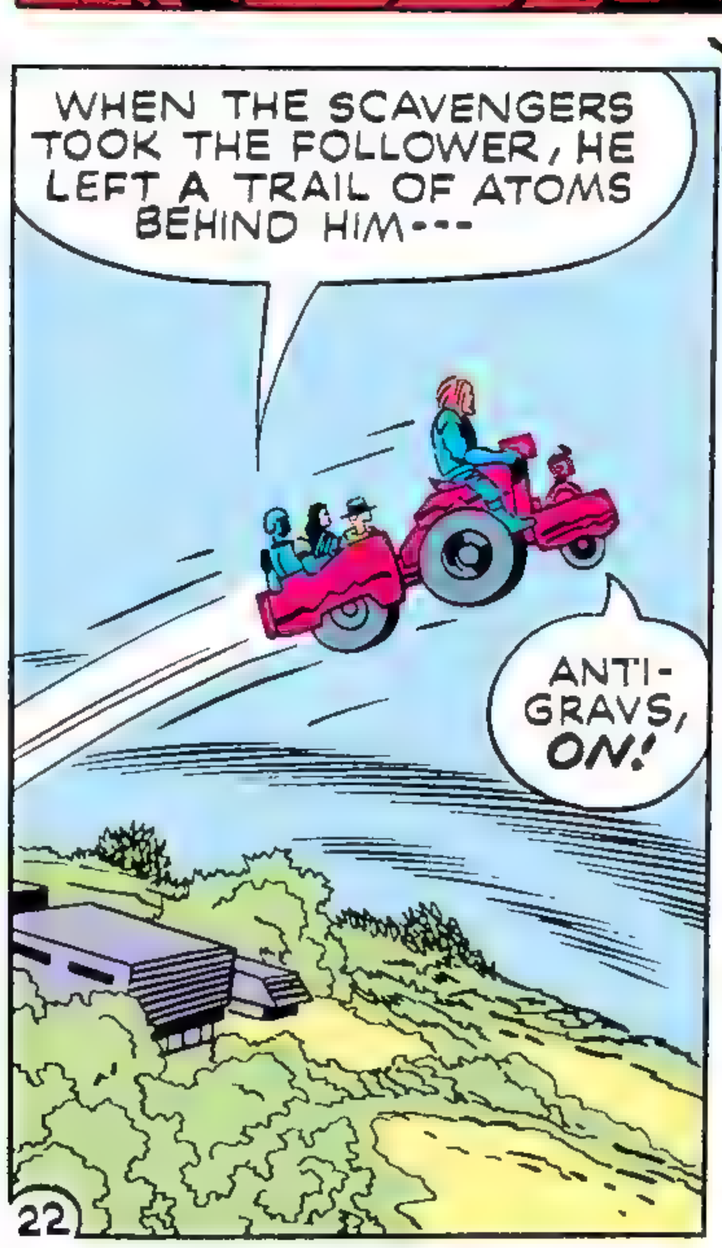
DON'T LOOK SURPRISED, YOU RAT! YOU CAN'T KILL A DEAD-MAN!


THE FOLLOWER'S BODY HAS THE SELF-SEALING FACULTY TO ABSORB AND CLOSE THESE NASTY BULLET-HOLES!
BUT---THIS CASE OF THE SCAVENGERS IS OPENING WIDER! ONE OF YOU IS MY MURDERER!!

SOON---
YOU'VE WON A VICTORY HERE---BUT IT'S A SMALL ONE! YOU SEE, THERE ARE MORE SCAVENGER DEPOTS---AND MORE MEN WITH HOOKS ON THEIR RIGHT HANDS!
THEN, IF YOU DIDN'T KILL BOSTON BRAND, DIRECTOR--- I'LL TRACK DOWN THE ONE WHO DID!
21







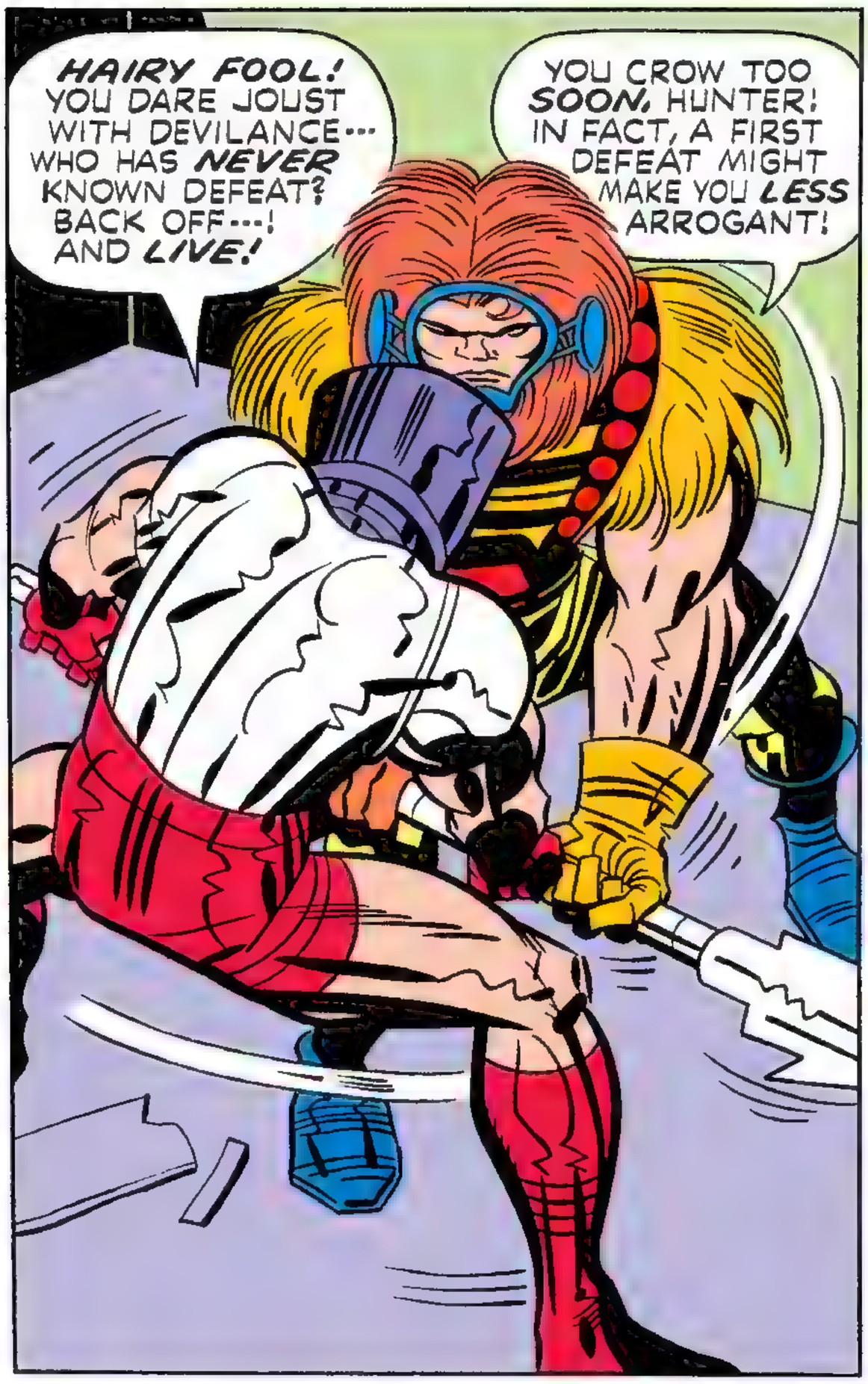
AND NOW- A NEW KIRBY "BLOCKBUSTER" IS ON THE WAY!

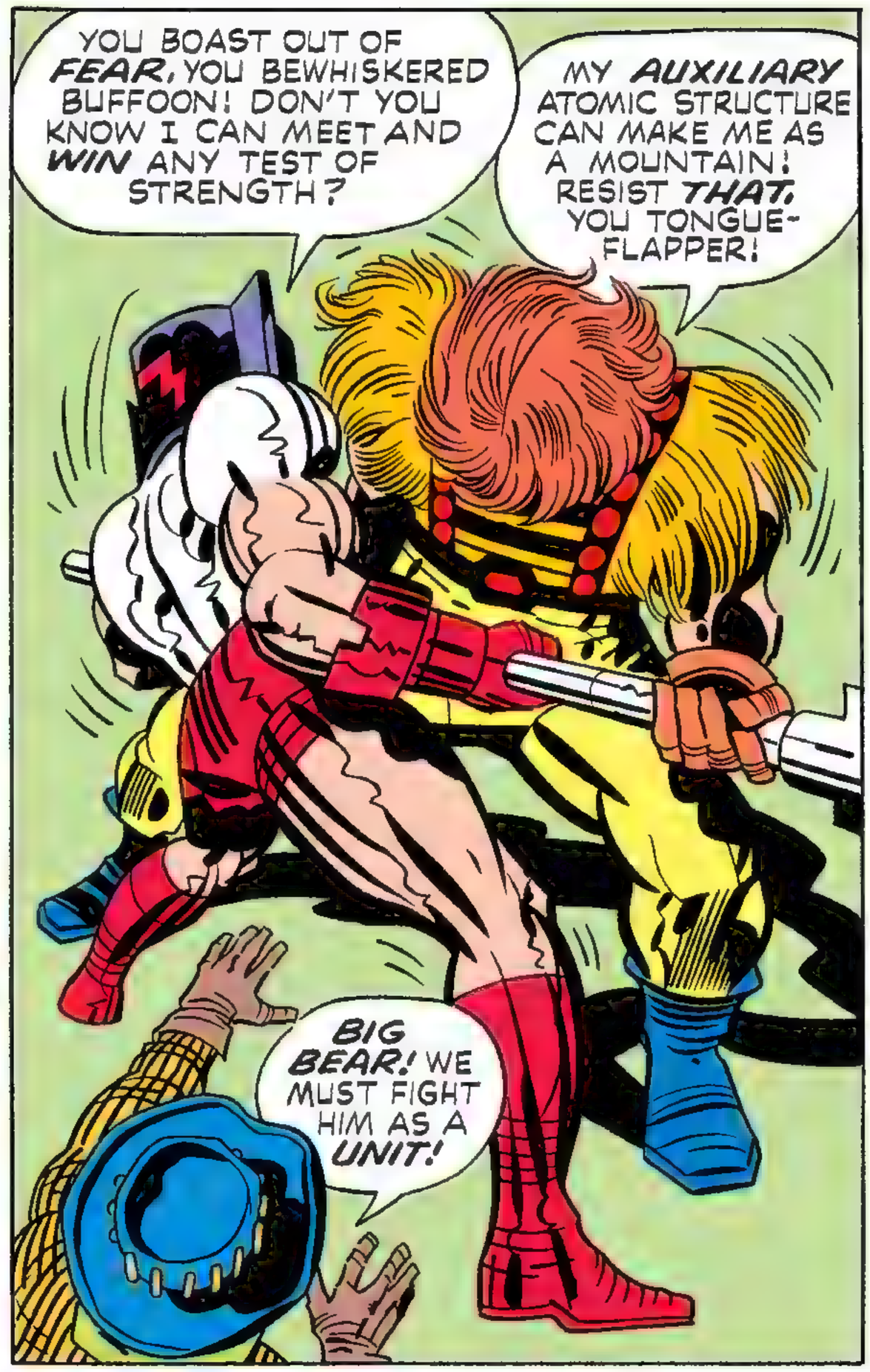
HE'LL BE COMING FOR YOU SOON! LOOK FOR HIM! LOOK FOR... THE DEMON!

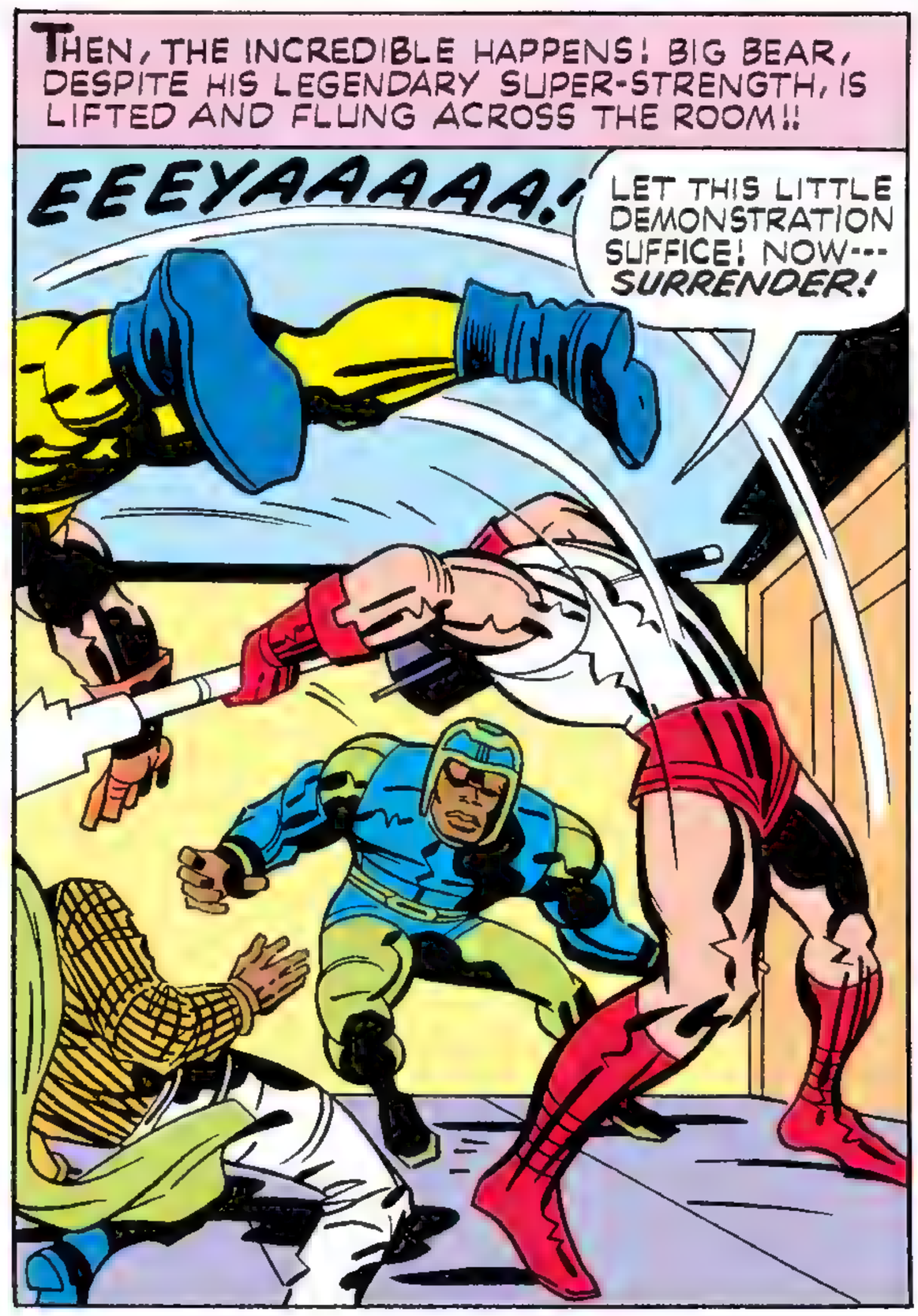
DC
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
THE FOREVER PEOPLE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 11
NOV.
30490
INFINITY MAN RETURNS!
IT'S TOO LATE, FOREVER PEOPLE! THERE'S NO ESCAPE FROM THE PURSUER!

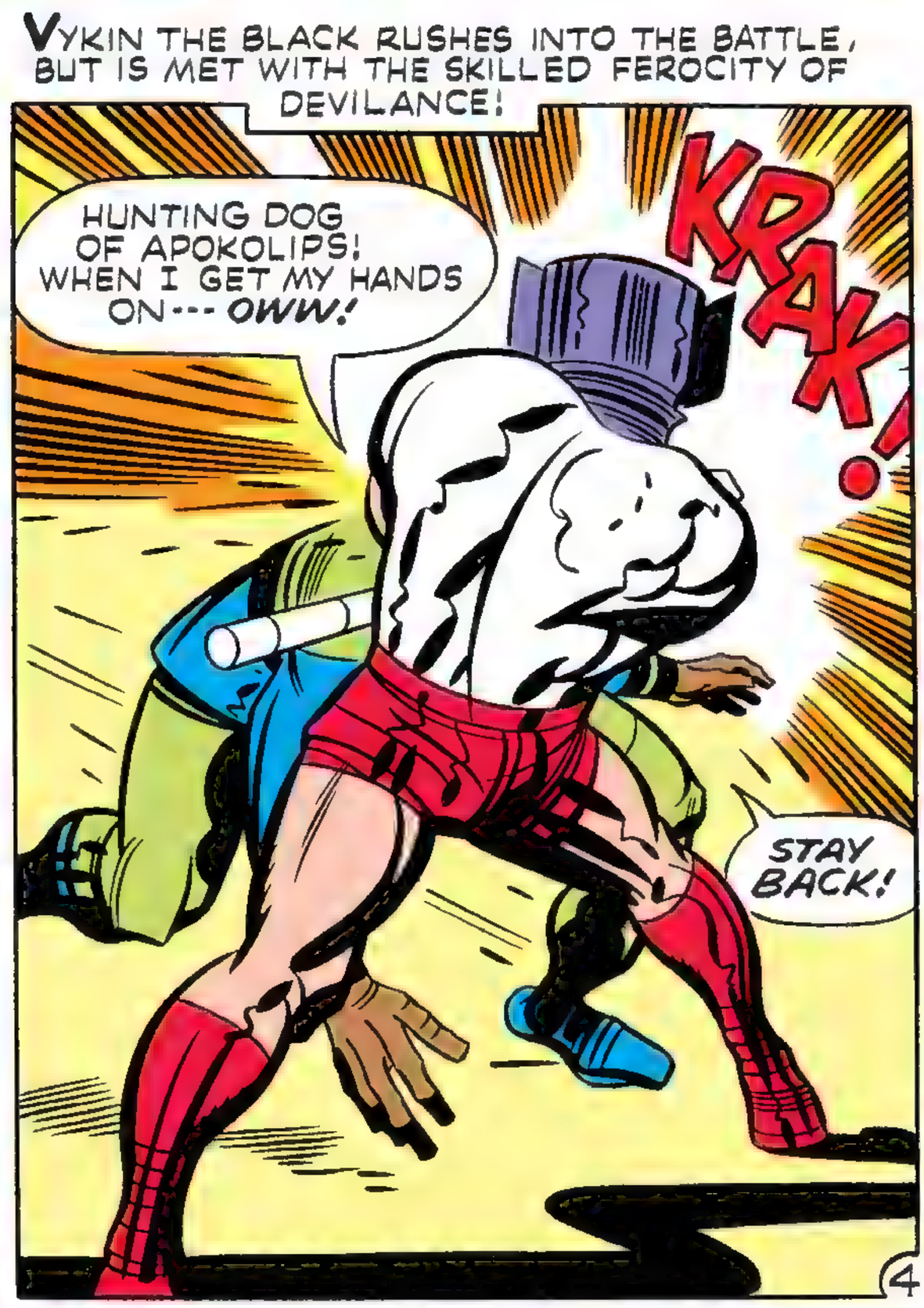
OF ALL THE CREATURES THAT PEOPLE THE UNIVERSE, NONE IS SO FEARED AS THE RELENTLESS PERSONALITY WHO MUST FULFILL WHAT HE WAS CREATED FOR--- AT ALL COSTS! GIVE SUCH A BEING THE POWER OF A GOD AND YOU'RE CONFRONTED WITH A GRAVITY OF DANGER UNIMAGINABLE ON THE HUMAN SCALE! FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF HIS PREY, THERE IS NONE SO FEARSOME! YOU SHALL LEARN WHY FROM THE---
FOREVER PEOPLE
HIGH-FATHER SAVE US-! WE'VE BEEN DISCOVERED BY THE PURSUER-!!!
BETTER HAD WE STUMBLED ON THE PLAGUE! THIS MOMENT SHALL FIND US SORELY TRIED!
CRASH!
PRODUCED BY JACK KIRBY
INKED BY MIKE ROYER
RESEARCH BY MARK EVANIER STEVE SHERMAN

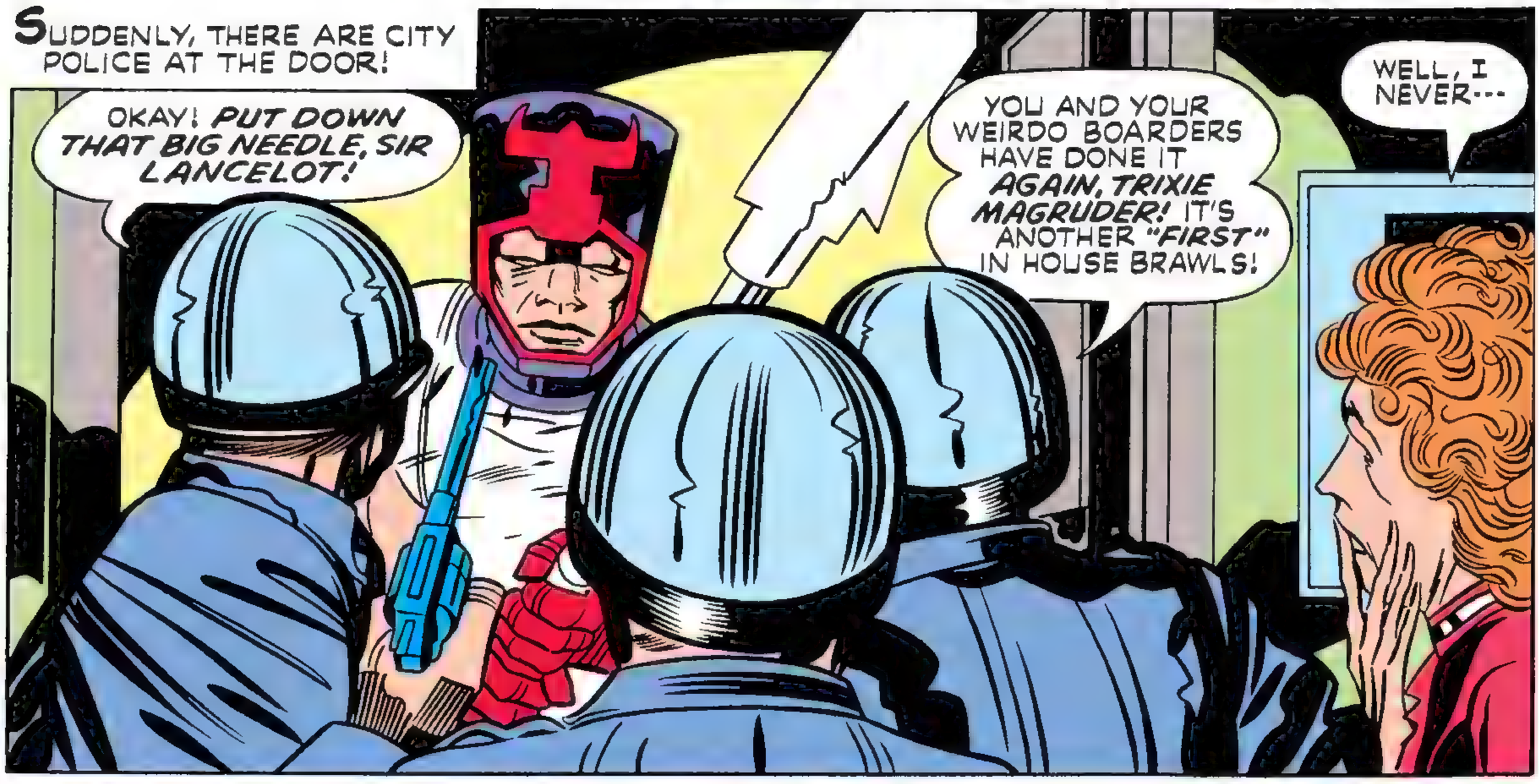
DEVILANCE THE PURSUER ---
-A PRODUCT OF WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE TRACKING PRINCIPLE WHEN IT'S BROUGHT TO ITS ULTIMATE EFFICIENCY! EVERY TRAIT OF THE PROFESSIONAL BOUNTY-HUNTER, PLUS THE CRUSHING WILL OF DARKSEID, HIMSELF, HAS BEEN BRED INTO THIS DENIZEN OF APOKOLIPS! HE MUST PURSUE, TRAP, AND DESTROY HIS PREY---OR DIE-!!
IN THE NAME OF DARKSEID, I CLAIM YOU AS PRISONERS! DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE! YOU WILL MERELY DELAY THE INEVITABLE!
OH, NO! HE'LL NEVER REST UNTIL WE SURRENDER!!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP DEVILANCE! ---AND THAT'S TO FINISH HIM OFF!
LOOK OUT, MOONRIDER! THAT DEMON LANCE CAN KILL IN MANY WAYS!
2
3

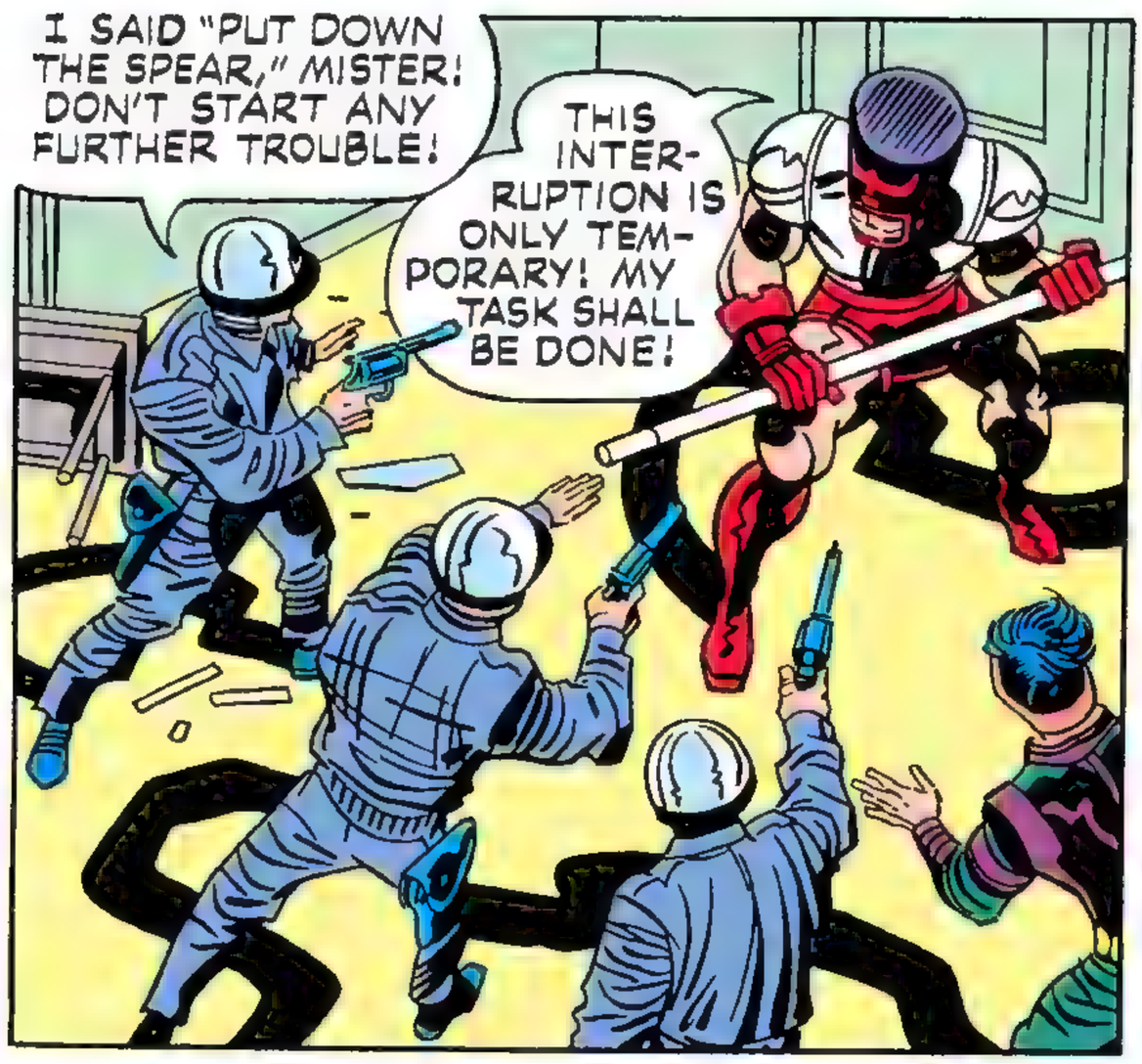

HAIRY FOOL! YOU DARE JOUST WITH DEVILANCE··· WHO HAS NEVER KNOWN DEFEAT? BACK OFF···! AND LIVE!
YOU CROW TOO SOON, HUNTER! IN FACT, A FIRST DEFEAT MIGHT MAKE YOU LESS ARROGANT!

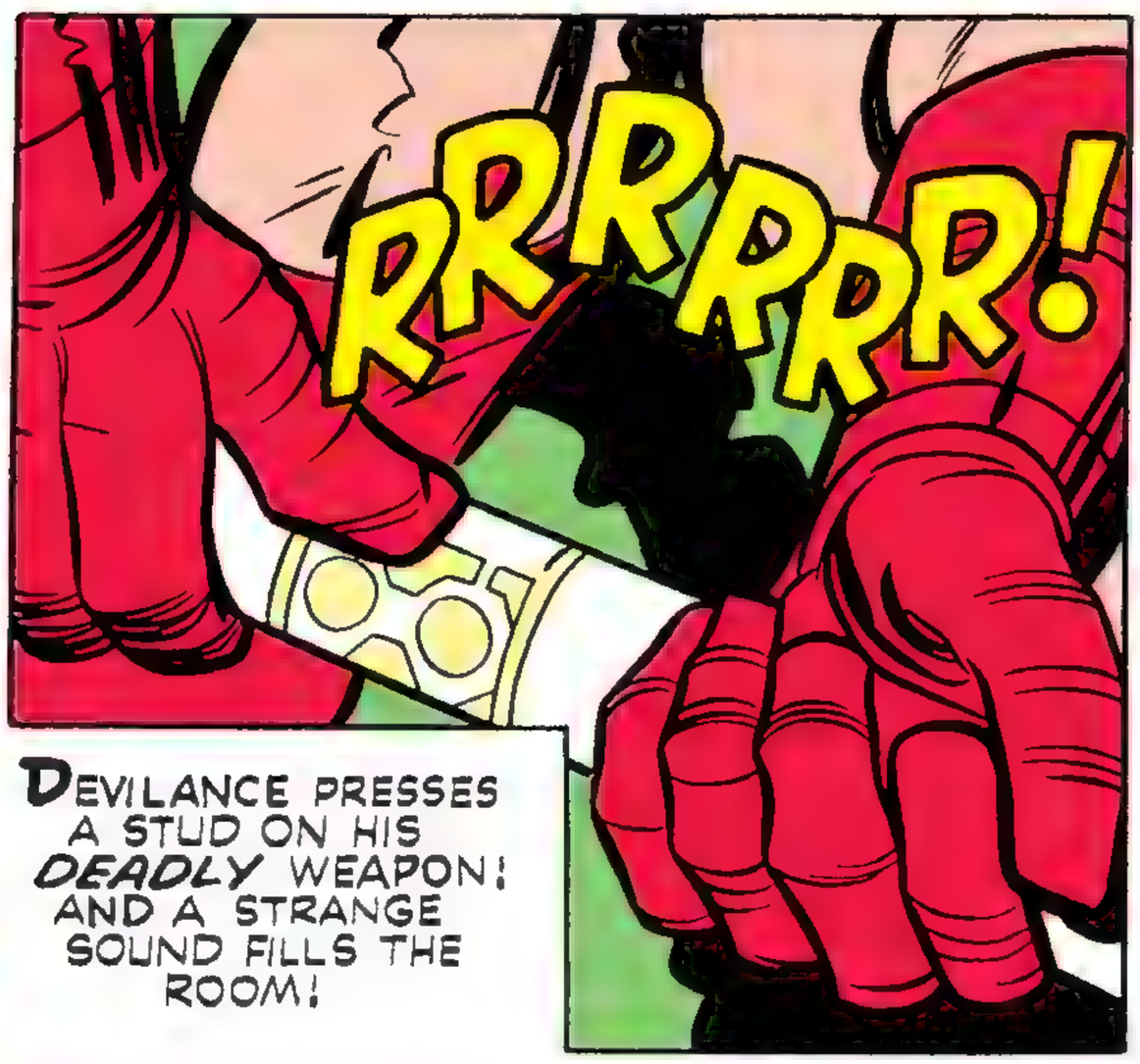

YOU BOAST OUT OF FEAR, YOU BEWHISKERED BUFFOON! DON'T YOU KNOW I CAN MEET AND WIN ANY TEST OF STRENGTH?
MY AUXILIARY ATOMIC STRUCTURE CAN MAKE ME AS A MOUNTAIN! RESIST THAT, YOU TONGUE-FLAPPER!
BIG BEAR! WE MUST FIGHT HIM AS A UNIT!


THEN, THE INCREDIBLE HAPPENS! BIG BEAR, DESPITE HIS LEGENDARY SUPER-STRENGTH, IS LIFTED AND FLUNG ACROSS THE ROOM!!
EEEYAAAAA!
LET THIS LITTLE DEMONSTRATION SUFFICE! NOW··· SURRENDER!

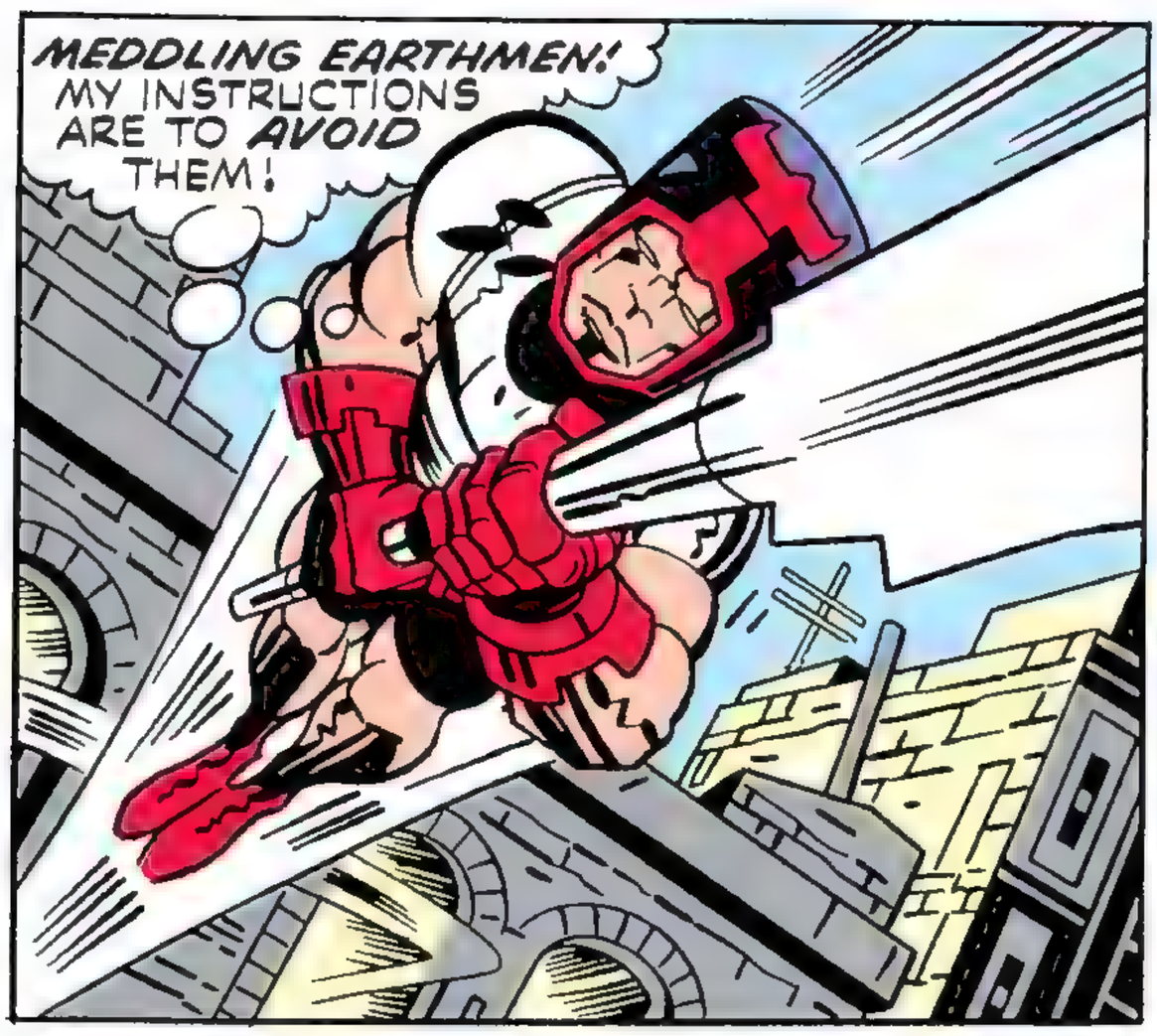

VYKIN THE BLACK RUSHES INTO THE BATTLE, BUT IS MET WITH THE SKILLED FEROCITY OF DEVILANCE!
HUNTING DOG OF APOKOLIPS! WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON··· OWW!
KRAK!
STAY BACK!
4







BEFORE ANY ACTION CAN BE TAKEN, THE LANCE LAUNCHES ITSELF OUT OF THE WINDOW, CARRYING ITS OWNER WITH IT!



DEVILANCE IS A TINY DOT ABOVE THE CITY-SCAPE OF BUILDINGS BEFORE ANY OF THE SHOTS CAN REACH HIM! THEN ---

TRIXIE MAGRUDER, I WISH YOU'D START SCREENING YOUR TENANTS, SO THIS PRECINCT CAN QUIET DOWN! WHO *WAS* THAT!? ··· AND *WHAT* WAS HIS GRIPE?

I-I *CAN'T* IMAGINE, OFFICER BLAKE!

THOSE *KIDS'LL* TELL US!

YEAH! THOSE KIDS! --- BUT *WHERE* ARE THEY? THEY *COULDN'T* HAVE LEFT THIS ROOM WITHOUT OUR SEEING THEM!

MY···!

I THOUGHT I SAW A *FLASH* OF LIGHT! --- AND HEARD A SOFT *PINGING* SOUND ···!

"PHASING OUT" IS AN UNFAMILIAR TERM TO THE POLICE, BUT THEY *DON'T* HAVE A "MOTHER BOX," EITHER ··· TO TRANSPORT THEM IN AN INSTANT, A-CROSS A VAST AREA ··· TO AN ABANDONED MINE SHAFT IN WHICH THE FOREVER PEOPLE SUDDENLY APPEAR --- !

PING PING

PING PING PING!

WELL, WE'VE PUT LOTS OF DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND DEVILANCE! THIS MINE SHAFT SHOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE *COVER!*

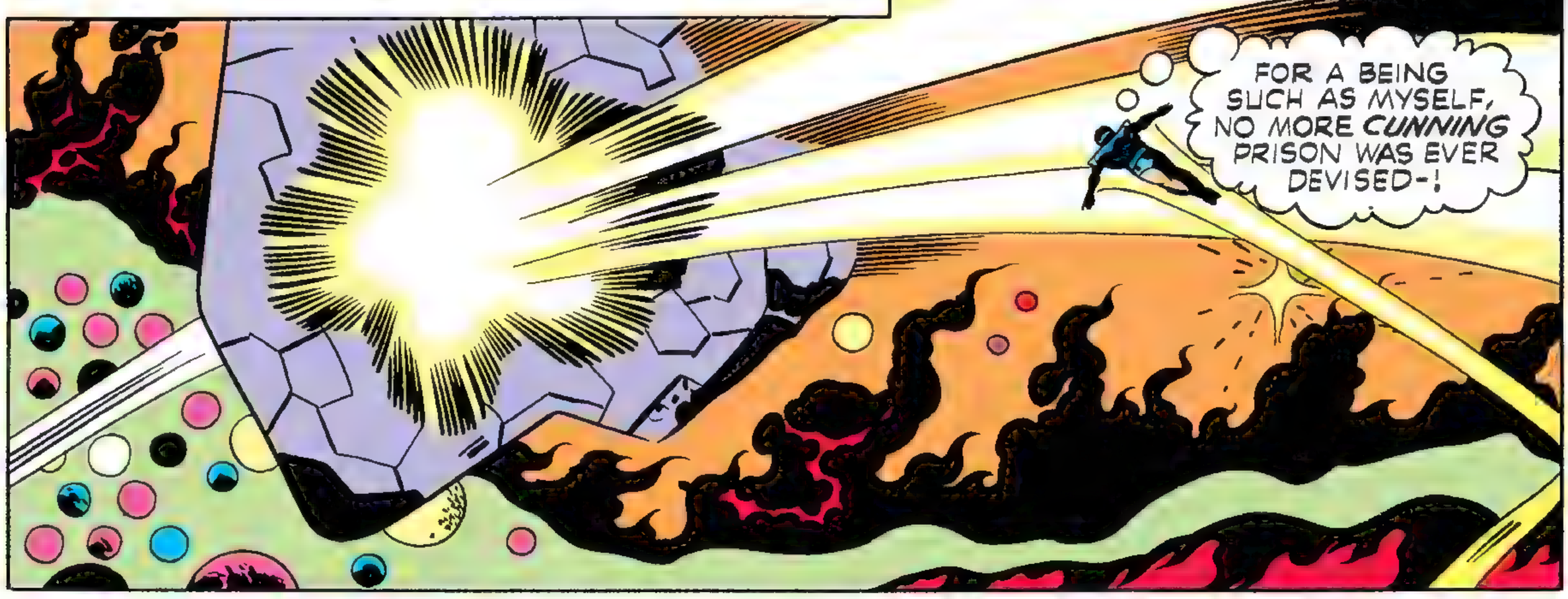
WISHFUL THINKING, VYKIN! DEVILANCE WILL FIND US SOON ENOUGH! BUT THIS'LL GIVE US *TIME* TO GET READY FOR HIM!

BIG BEAR IS *RIGHT!* LET'S LOOK AROUND THIS PLACE!

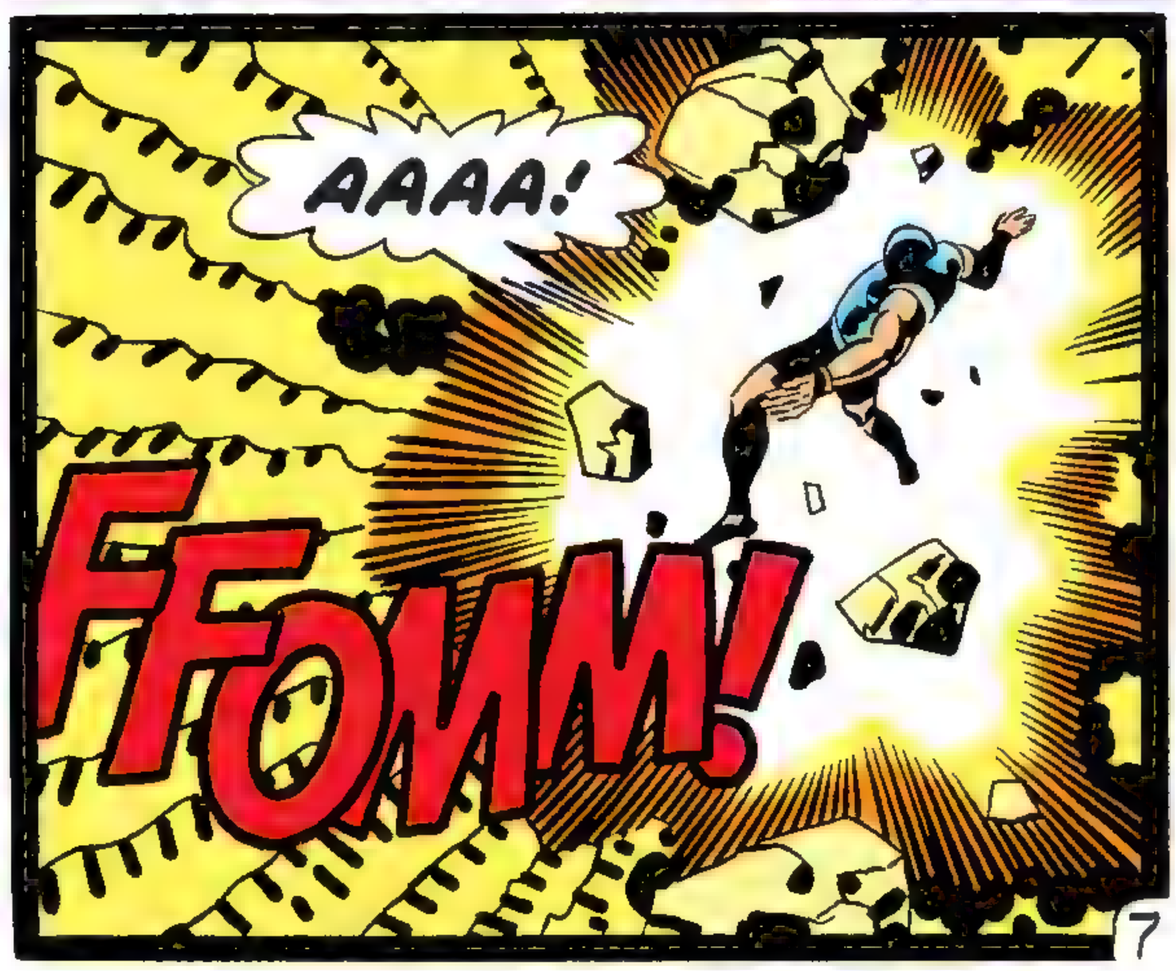
6

BUT DISTANCE, STRETCHED TO AN INCREDIBLE DEGREE, HOLDS YET ANOTHER PLAYER IN THIS DEADLY GAME! ---INFINITY MAN!

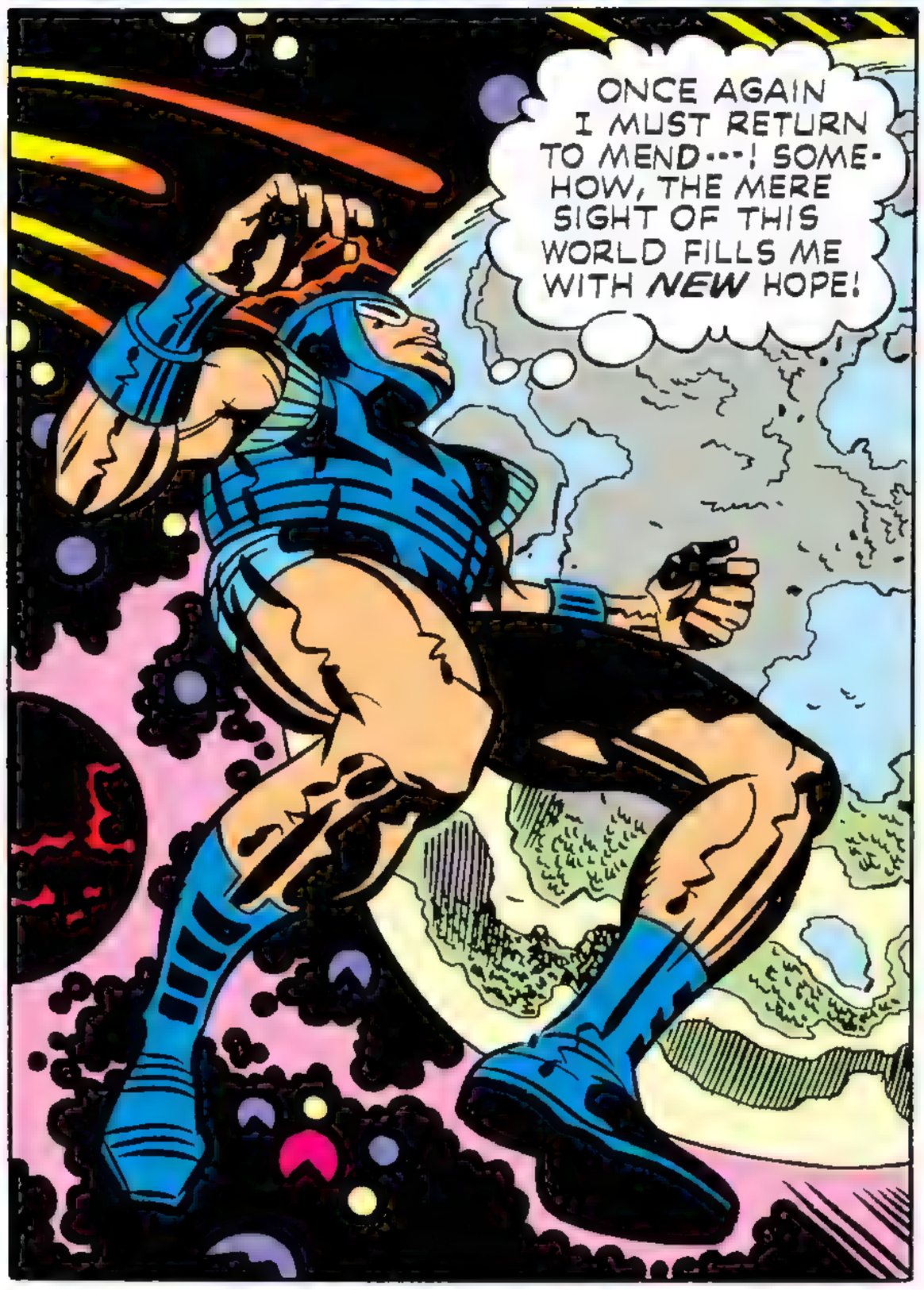
FLUNG BY DARKSEID'S POWER INTO A CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE WHERE TIME, SPACE, AND MATTER CHANGE AND MERGE, INFINITY MAN RIDES THE CURRENTS OF DESPAIR---!



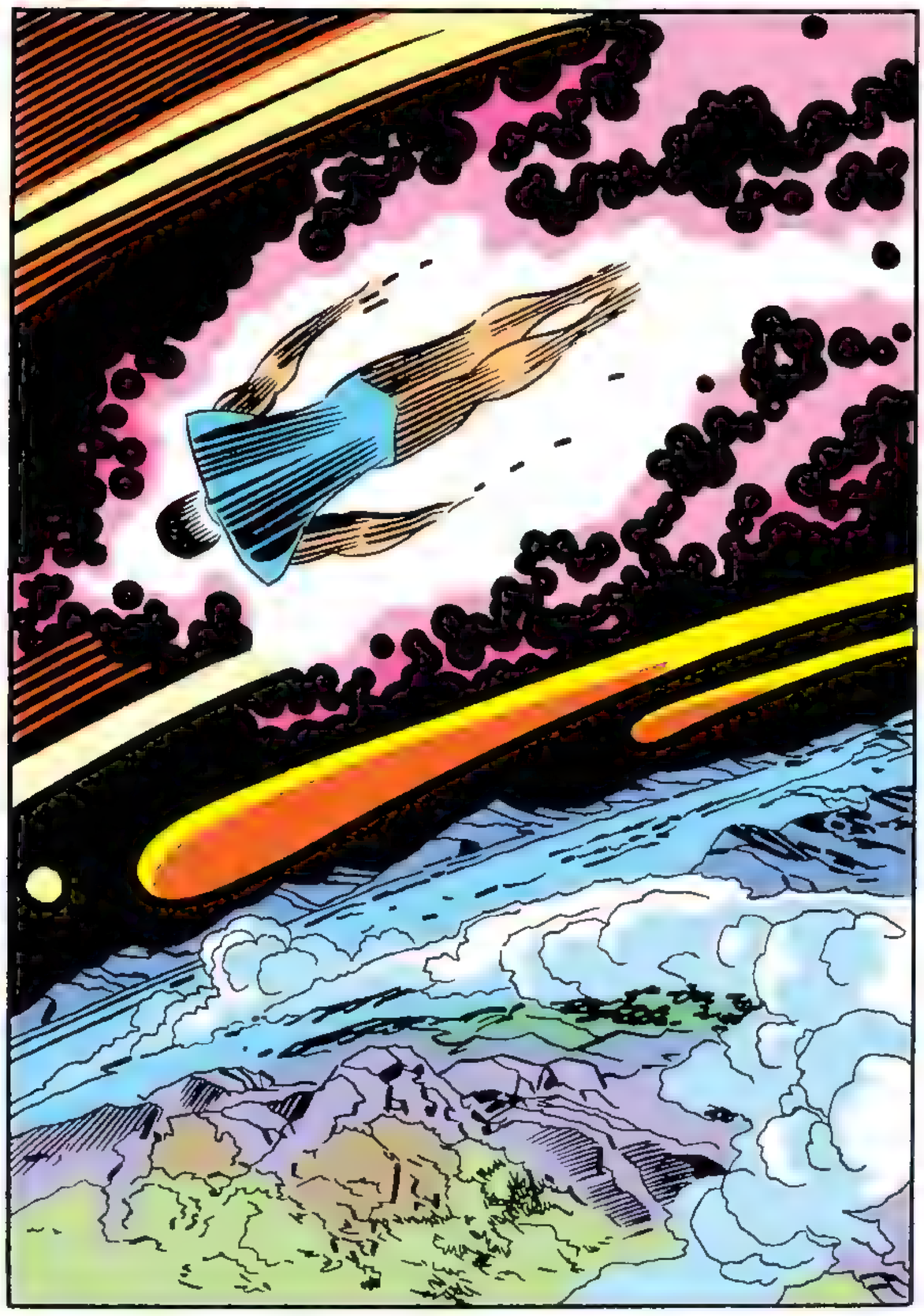
AND THE BARRIER IS EVERYWHERE! ITS LIMITS UNFATHOMABLE! ---EACH ATTEMPT BY INFINITY MAN TO PENETRATE IT, RESULTS IN A VIOLENT, INJURIOUS FLARE-UP!



AND, AFTER *EACH* UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT AT ESCAPE, THERE IS THE *PLANET*---THE GREAT, GREEN, HAVEN-LIKE WORLD TO WHICH INFINITY MAN LIMPS TO NURSE HIS WOUNDS---



MARSHALLING HIS *REMAINING* POWERS, INFINITY MAN STREAKS INTO THE WHIRLING AIR ENVELOPE OF THE PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE LIKE THE FLAMING METEORS WHICH ACCOMPANY HIS ARRIVAL!

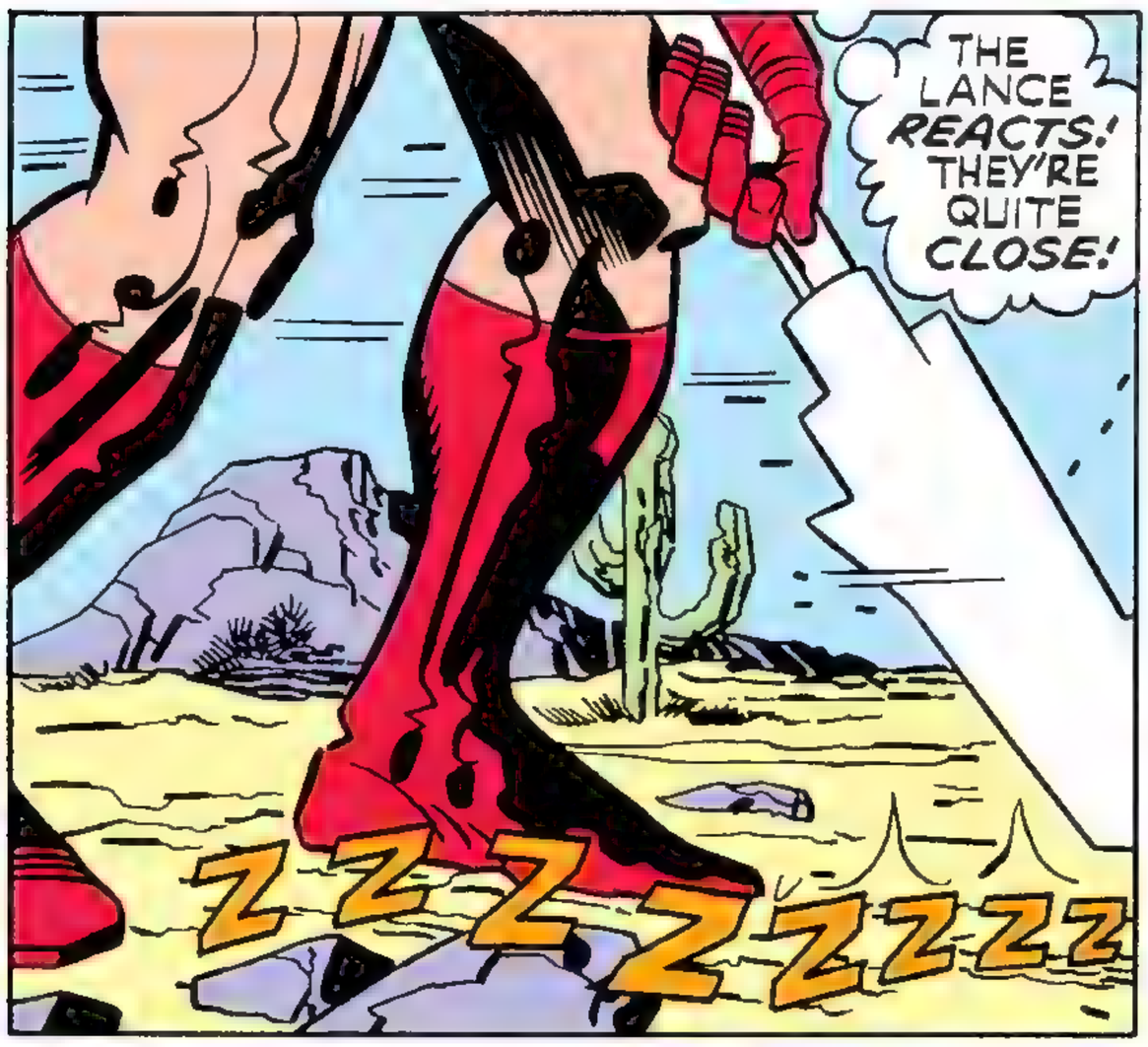


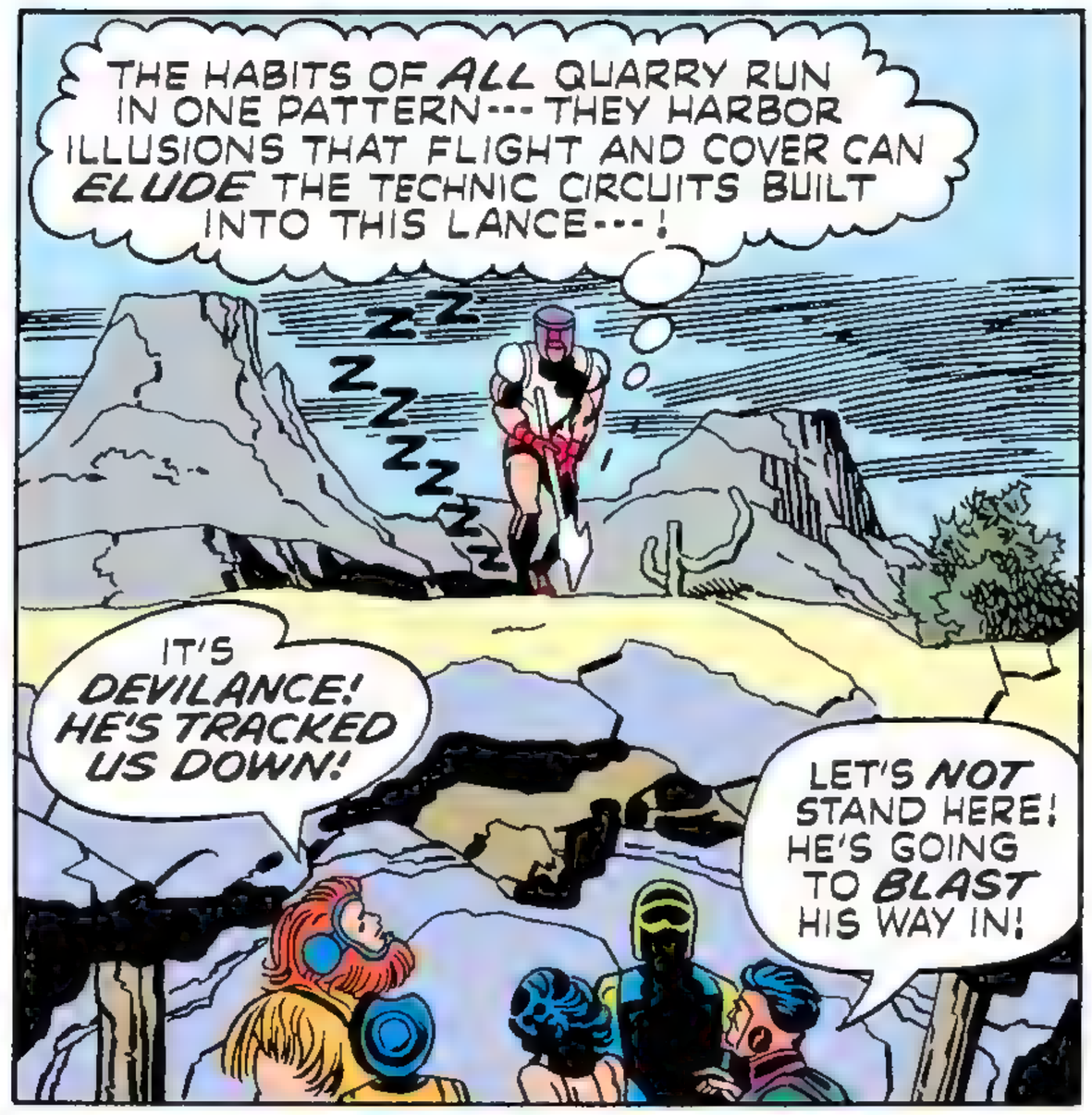
INFINITY MAN LANDS AND RESTS IN THE SERENE SHADOWS OF ONE OF ADON'S PEACEFUL GLADES! THE WORLD IS NOT NEW GENESIS, BUT IT RIVALS IT IN BEAUTY---!

WHEN I'M STRONGER, I SHALL TRY TO ESCAPE *AGAIN!* THERE *MUST* BE A WAY OUT!

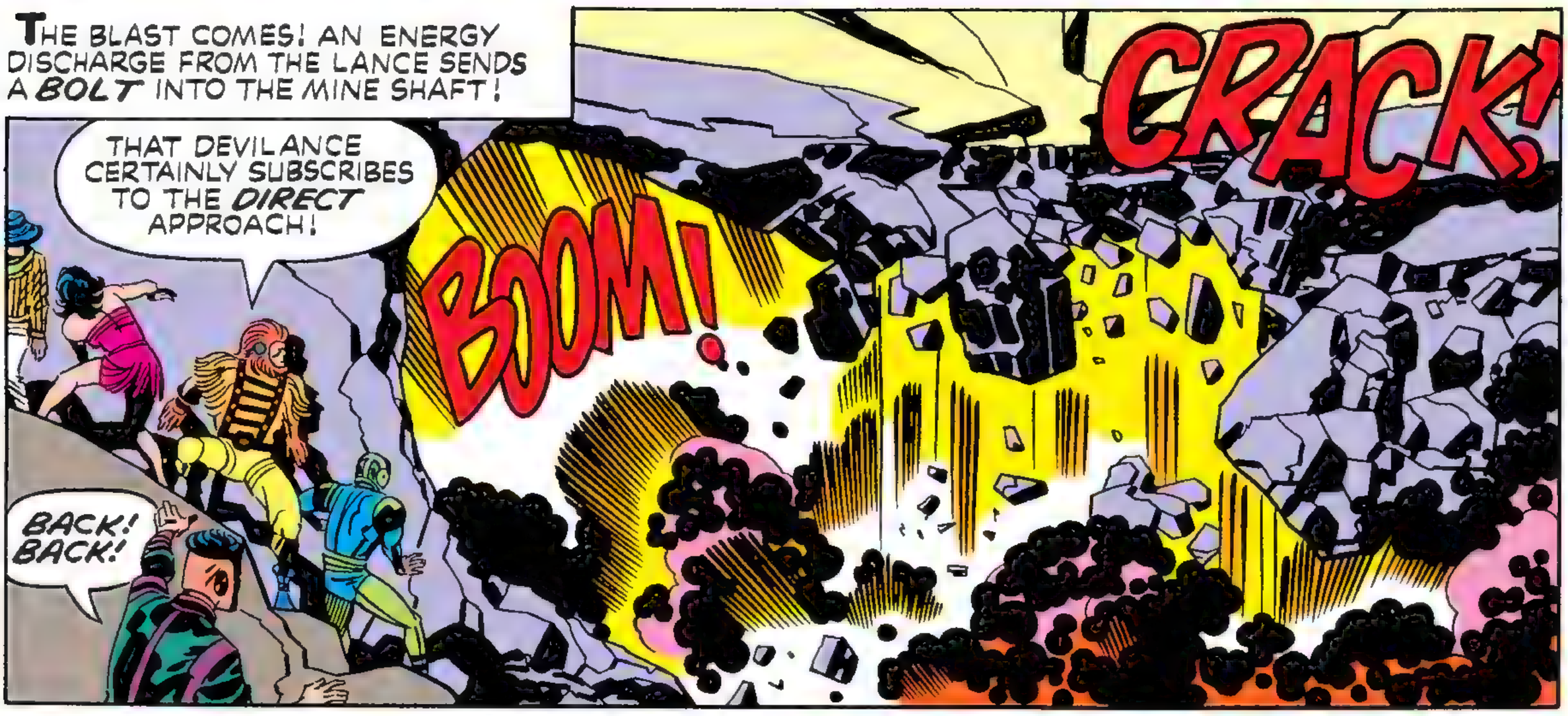
8

BUT WHAT OF ESCAPE FOR THE FOREVER PEOPLE-? ON EARTH, THE ONE WHO TRACKS THEM HAS ALREADY FOUND THEIR TRAIL!

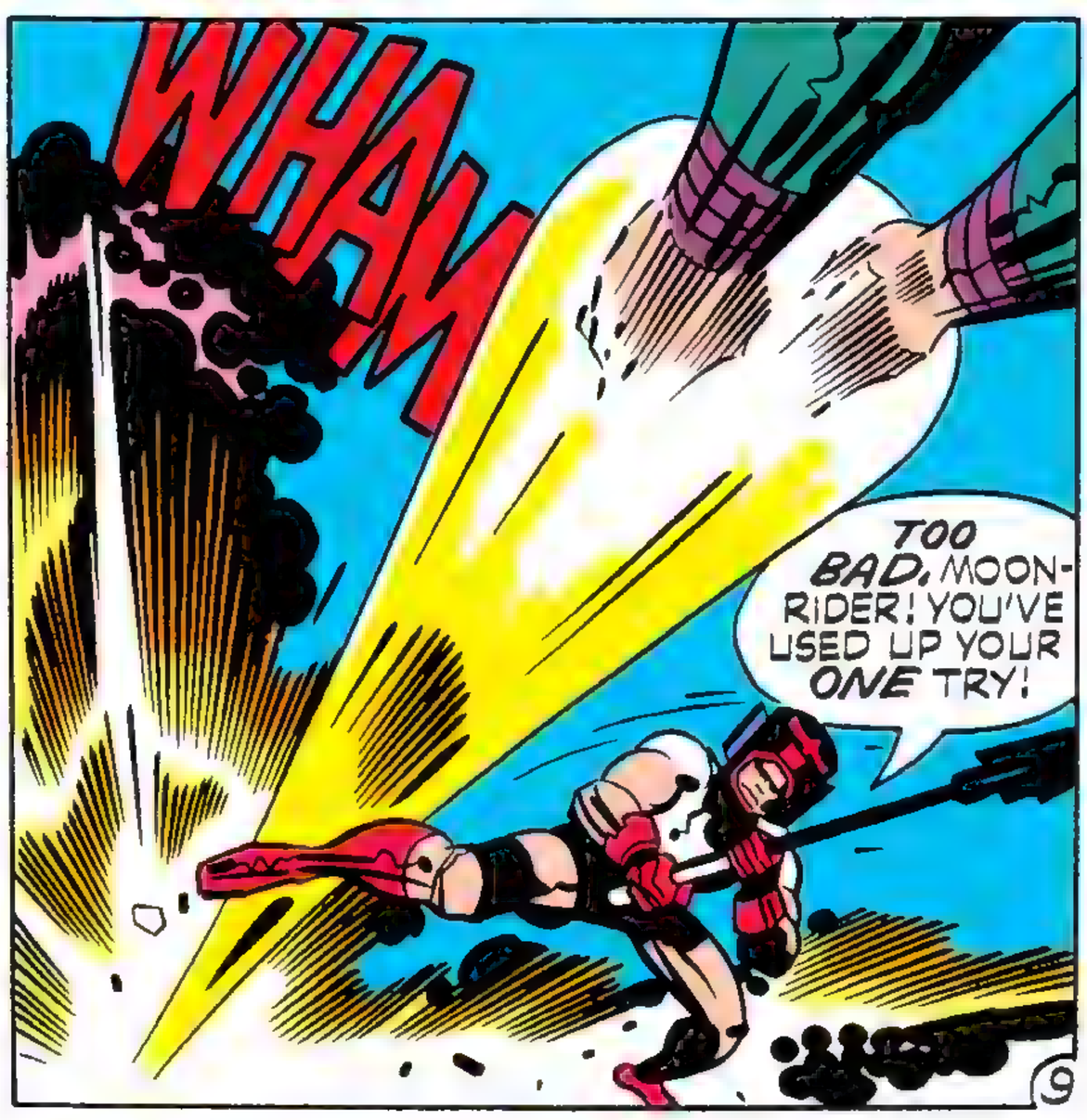


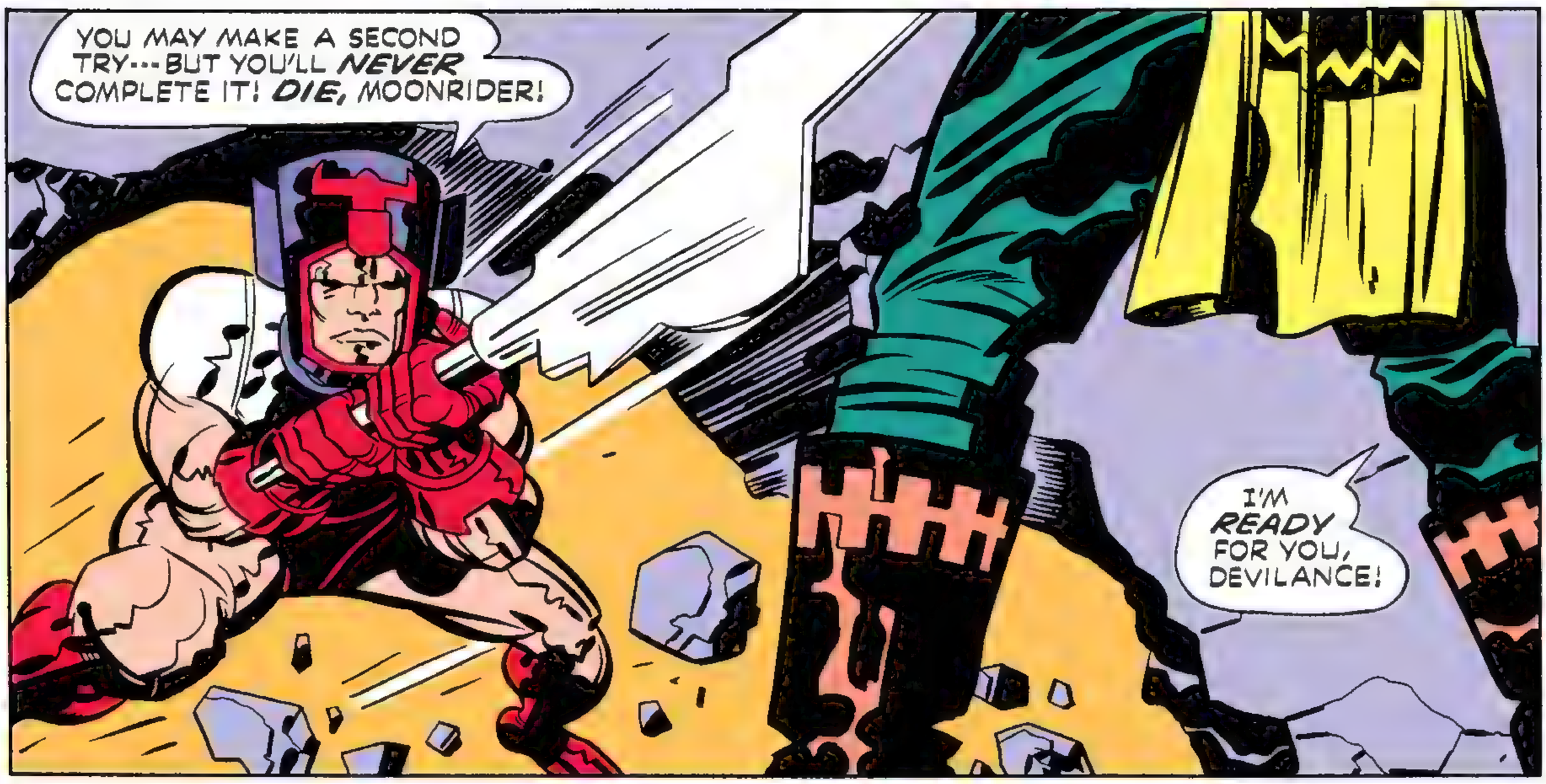


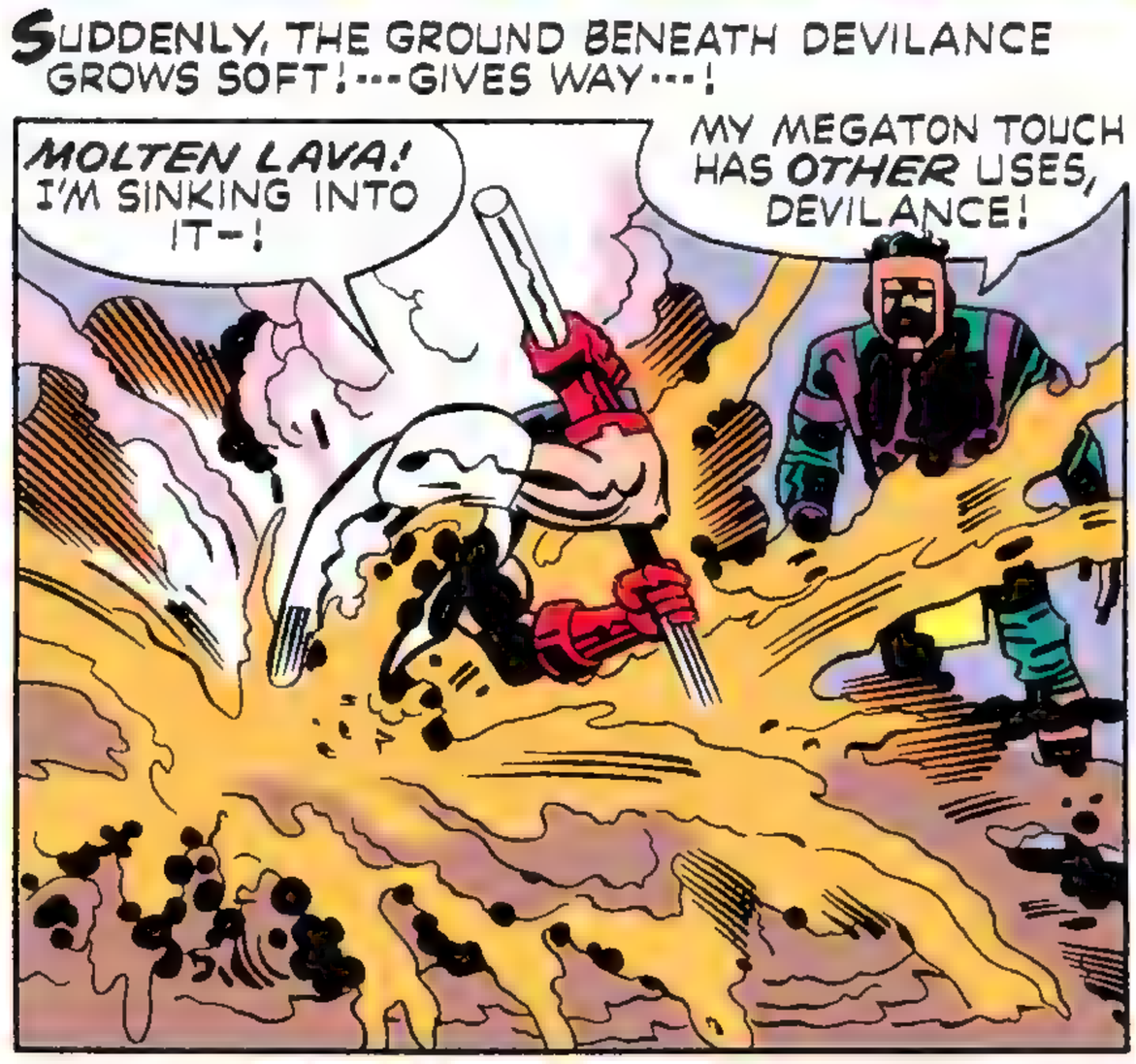
THE BLAST COMES! AN ENERGY DISCHARGE FROM THE LANCE SENDS A BOLT INTO THE MINE SHAFT!

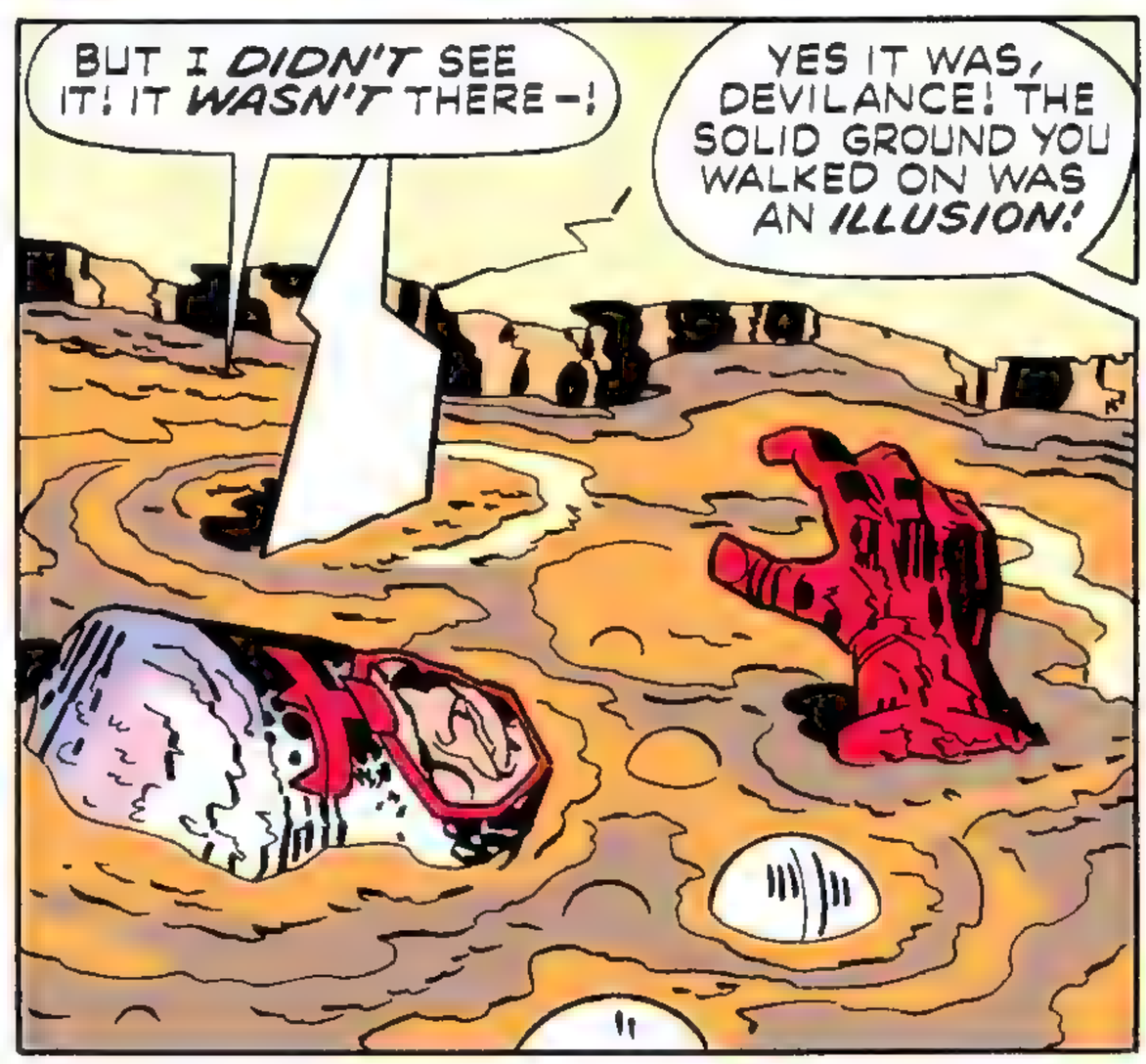


THEN---

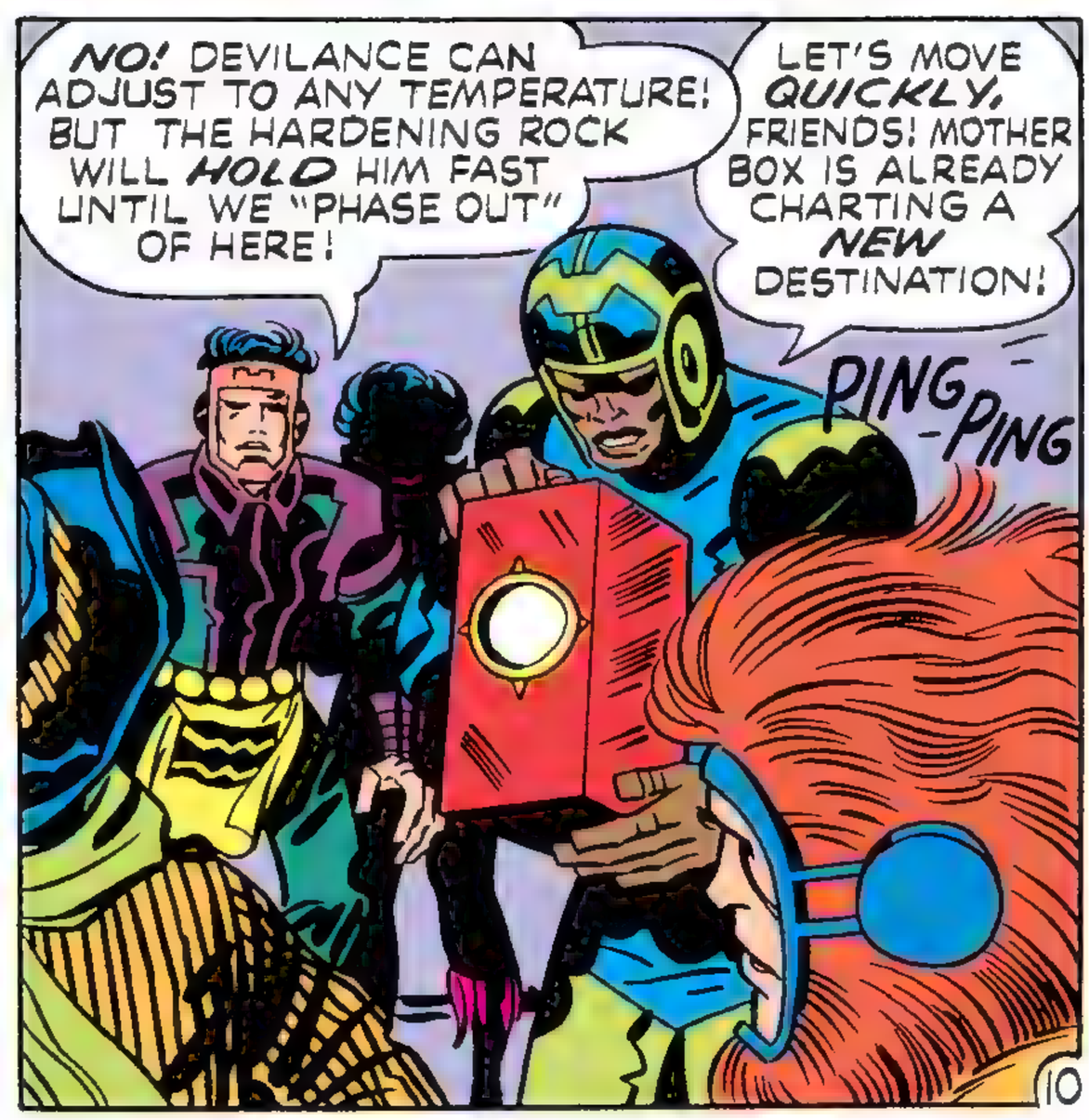


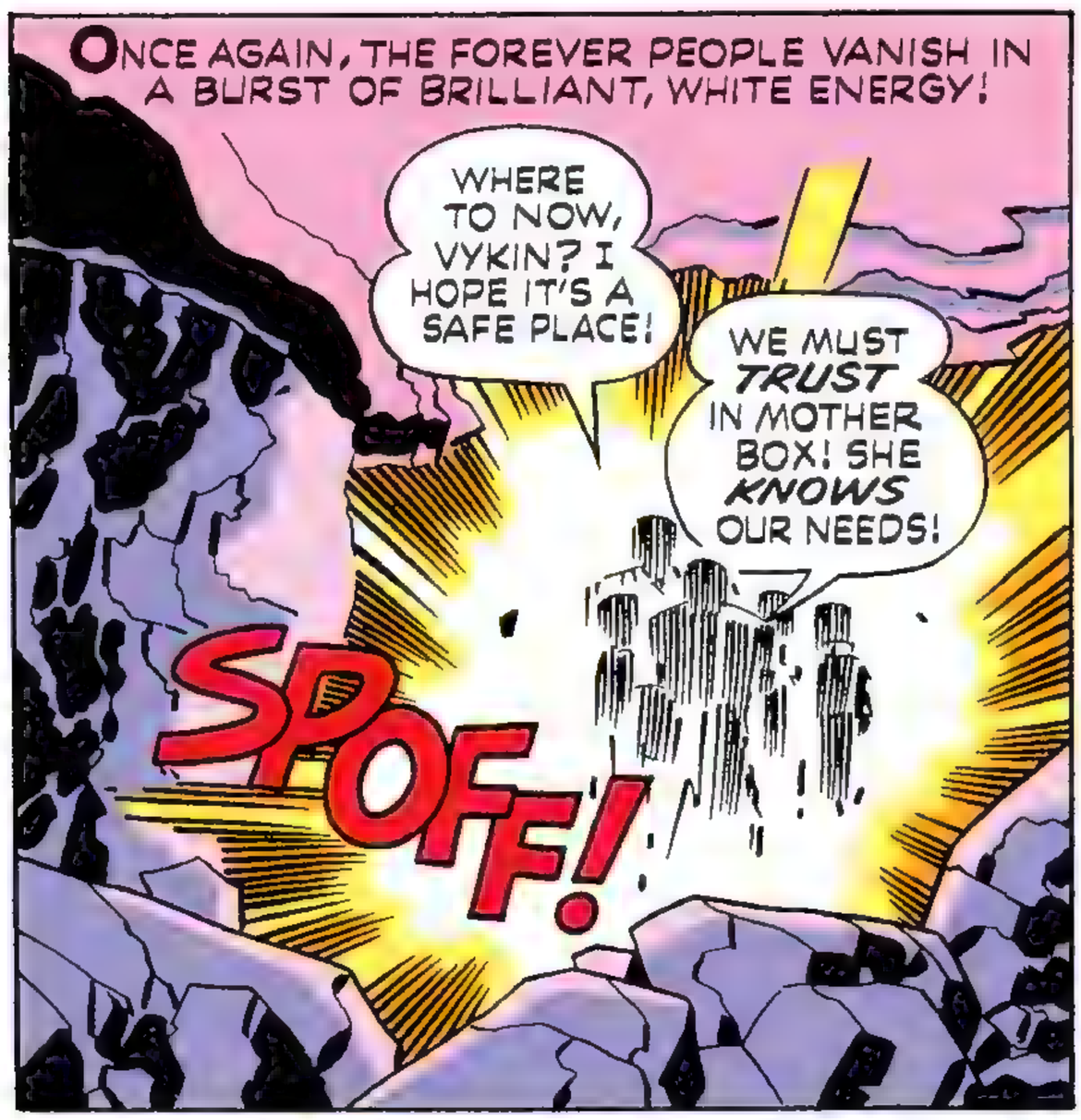

YOU MAY MAKE A SECOND TRY---BUT YOU'LL NEVER COMPLETE IT! DIE, MOONRIDER!
I'M READY FOR YOU, DEVILANCE!


SUDDENLY, THE GROUND BENEATH DEVILANCE GROWS SOFT!---GIVES WAY---!
MOLTEN LAVA! I'M SINKING INTO IT-!
MY MEGATON TOUCH HAS OTHER USES, DEVILANCE!


BUT I DIDN'T SEE IT! IT WASN'T THERE-!
YES IT WAS, DEVILANCE! THE SOLID GROUND YOU WALKED ON WAS AN ILLUSION!

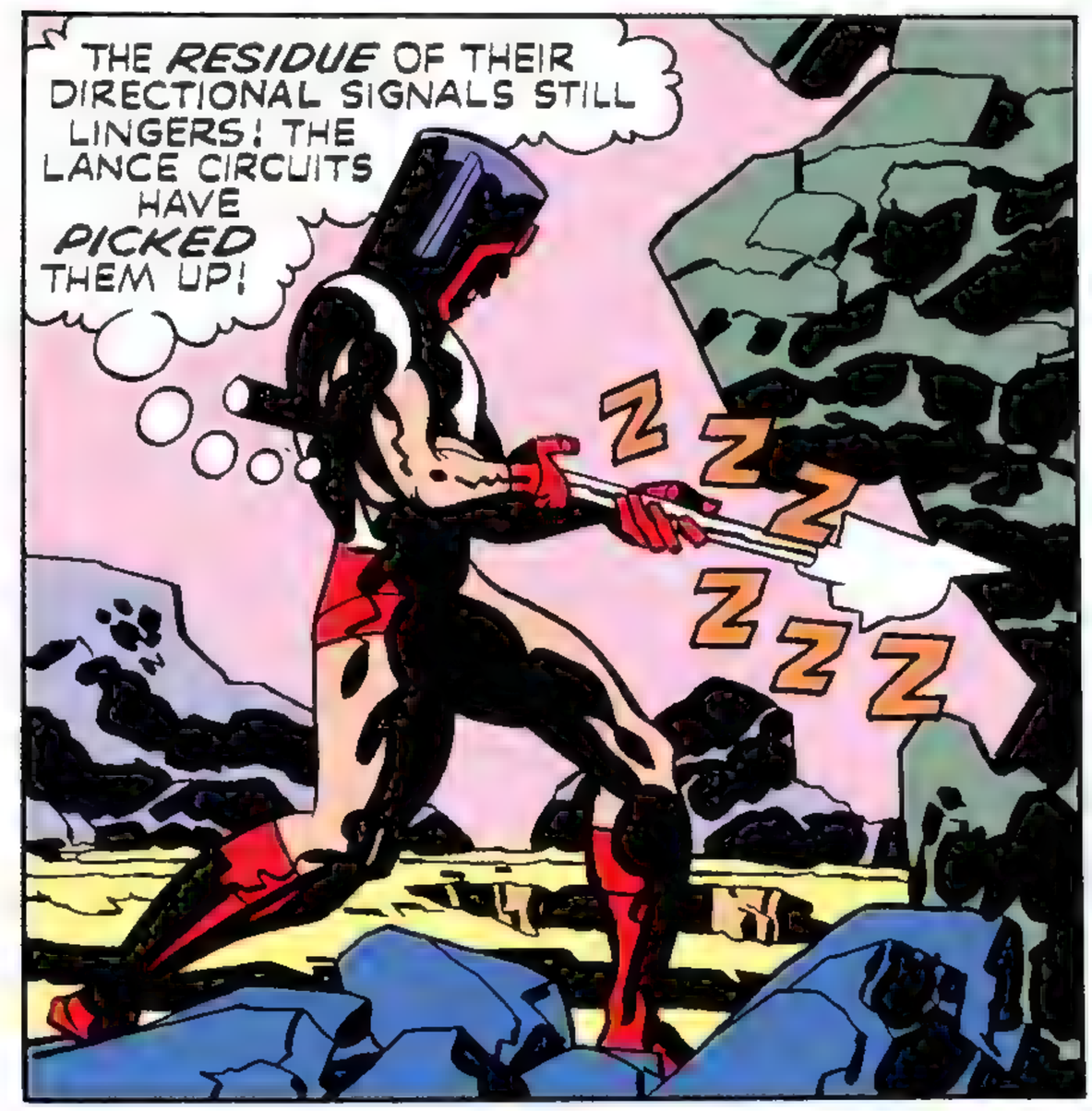
BEAUTIFUL DREAMER CAN CREATE VERY EFFECTIVE ILLUSIONS! THIS TIME YOU'RE TRAPPED! THE LAVA IS COOLING---AND HARDENING FAST!
OH, MARK! WON'T THE HEAT OF THE LAVA DESTROY HIM?


NO! DEVILANCE CAN ADJUST TO ANY TEMPERATURE! BUT THE HARDENING ROCK WILL HOLD HIM FAST UNTIL WE "PHASE OUT" OF HERE!
LET'S MOVE QUICKLY, FRIENDS! MOTHER BOX IS ALREADY CHARTING A NEW DESTINATION!
PING-PING

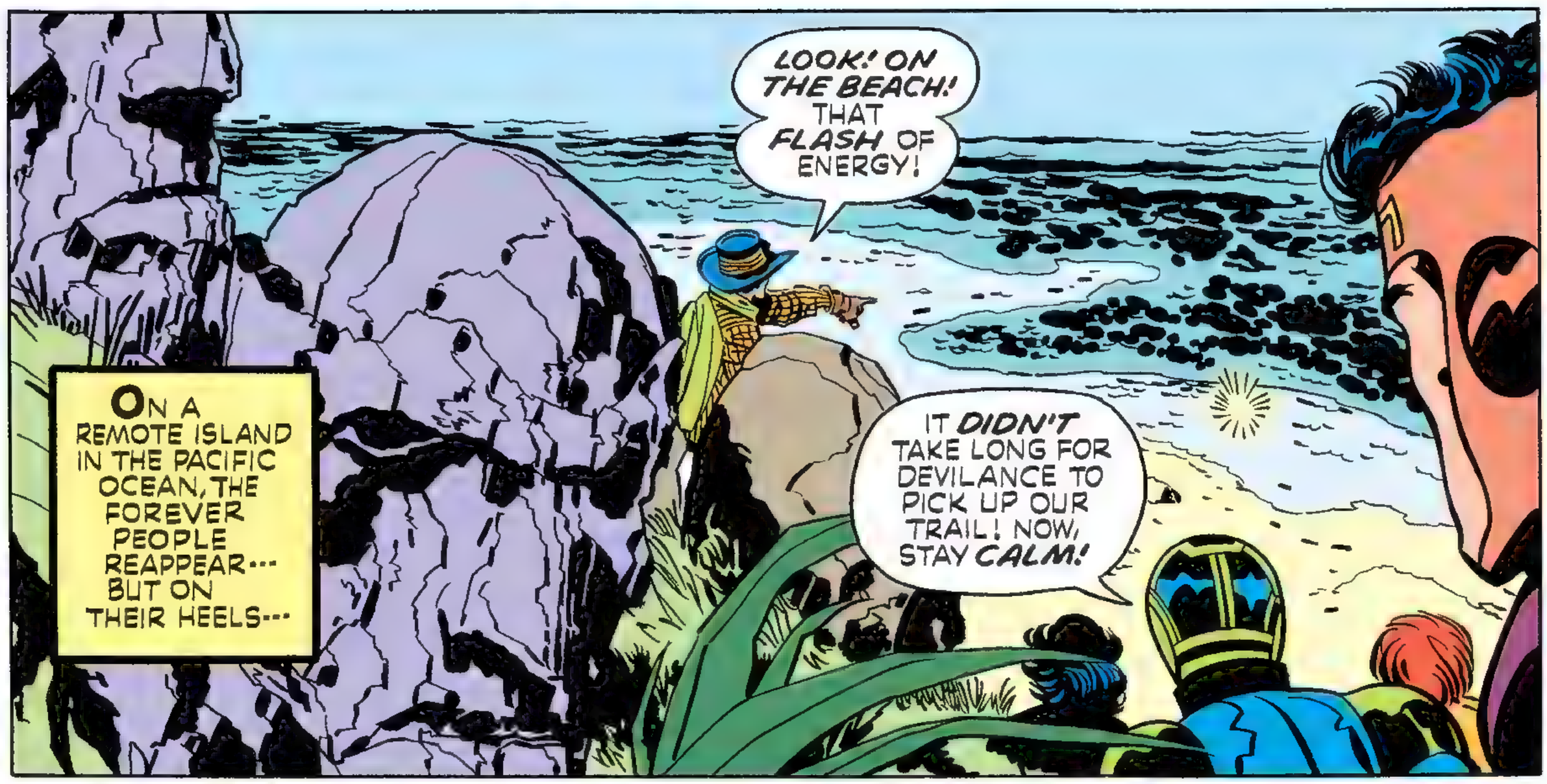

ONCE AGAIN, THE FOREVER PEOPLE VANISH IN A BURST OF BRILLIANT, WHITE ENERGY!
WHERE TO NOW, VYKIN? I HOPE IT'S A SAFE PLACE!
WE MUST TRUST IN MOTHER BOX! SHE KNOWS OUR NEEDS!
SPOFF!

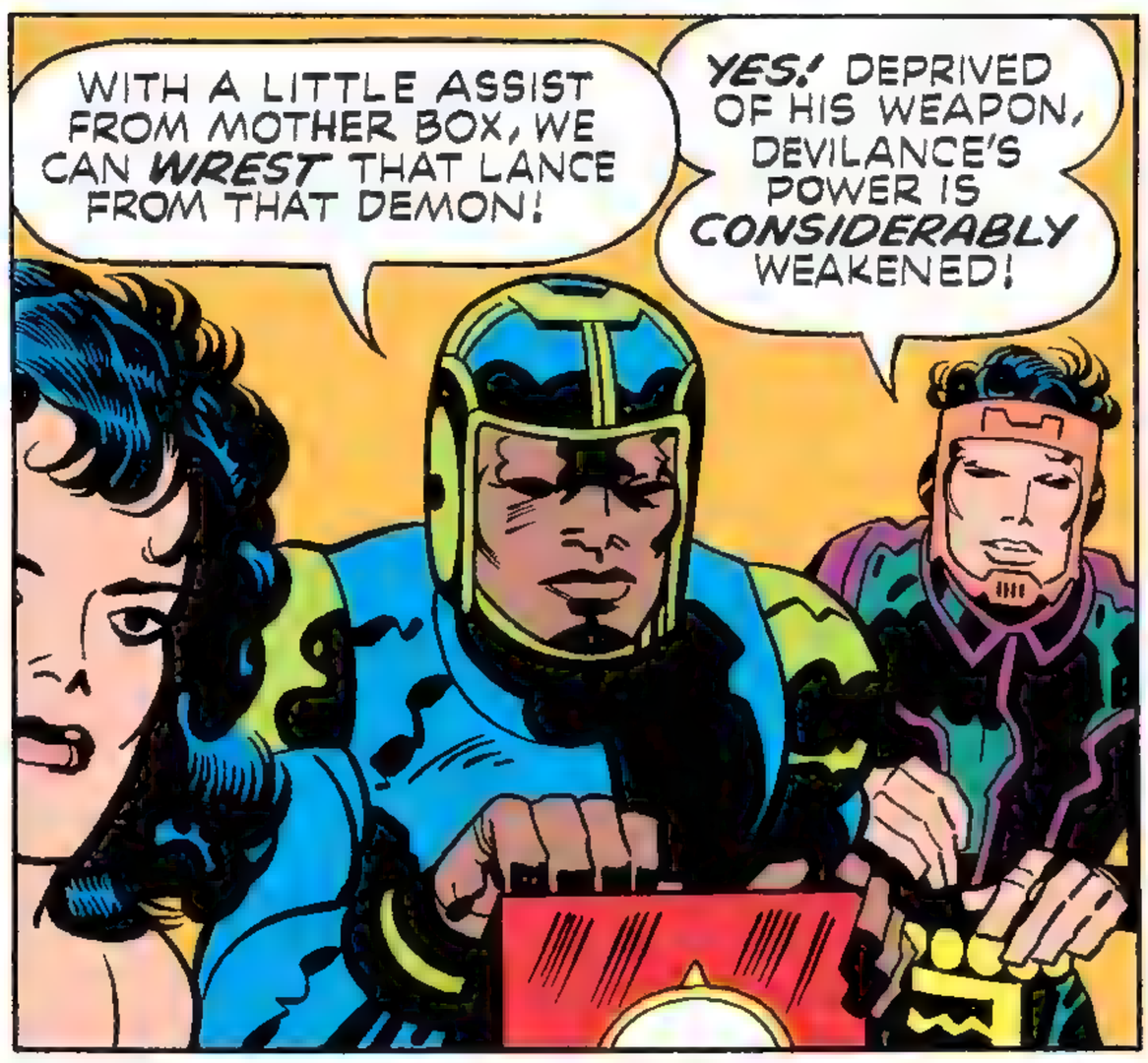
BUT NO SOONER ARE THEY GONE, THAN A GREAT CRACKLING SOUND FILLS THE TUNNEL, AND A LANCE BREAKS THROUGH THE ROCK!--- FOLLOWED BY A HAND---!
THEY'LL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS!
KRAK!

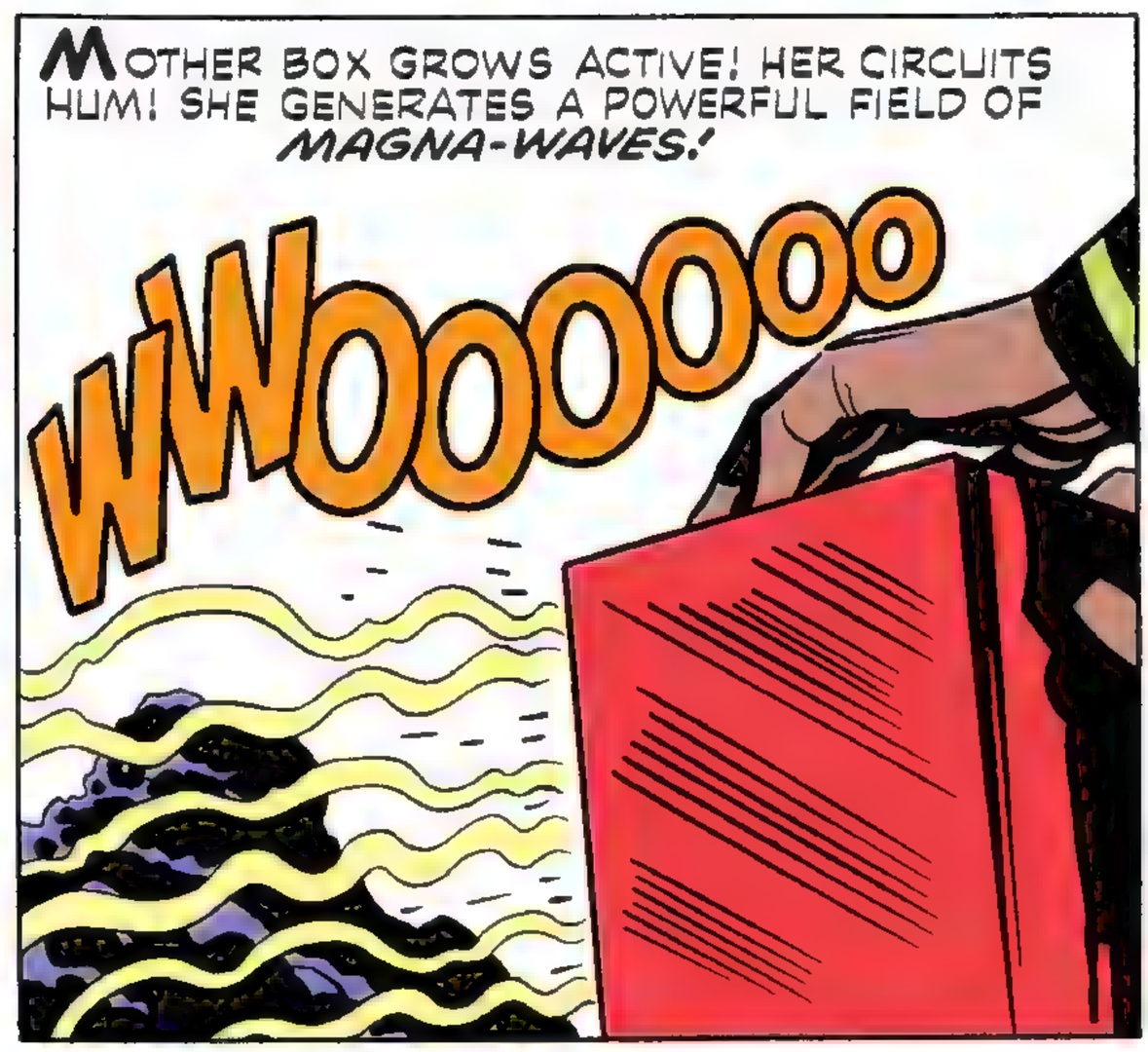
THEN DEVILANCE EMERGES! HE'S INCREASED HIS OWN ATOMIC DENSITY AND THRUSTS HIS WAY OUT OF HIS ROCKY PRISON!
I'LL GIVE NO QUARTER WHEN I CONFRONT THEM NEXT! MY MASTER, DARK-GEID, WILL HAVE TO CONTENT HIMSELF WITH BODIES INSTEAD OF PRISONERS!

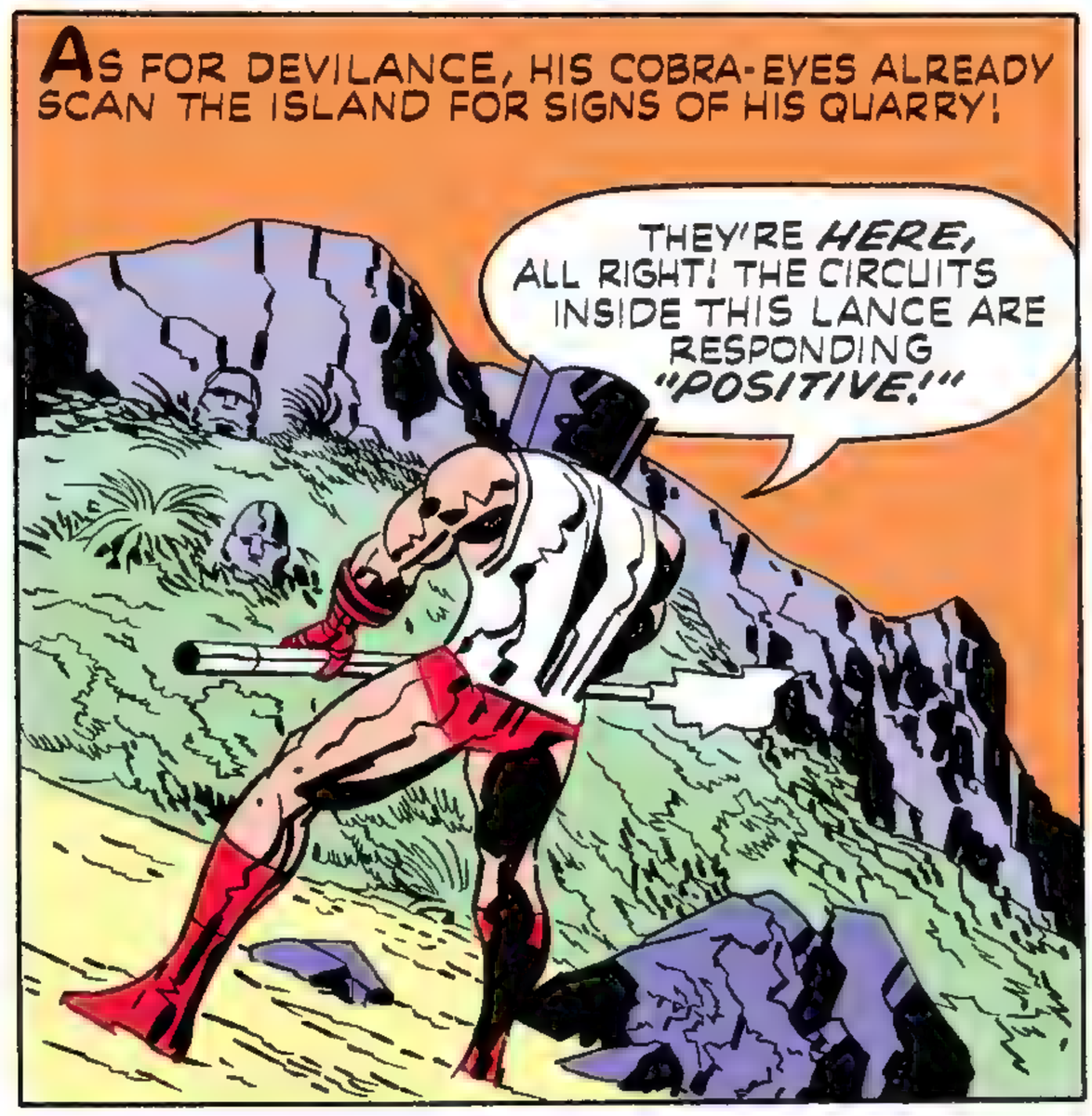

THE RESIDUE OF THEIR DIRECTIONAL SIGNALS STILL LINGERS! THE LANCE CIRCUITS HAVE PICKED THEM UP!
ZZZZZZZ

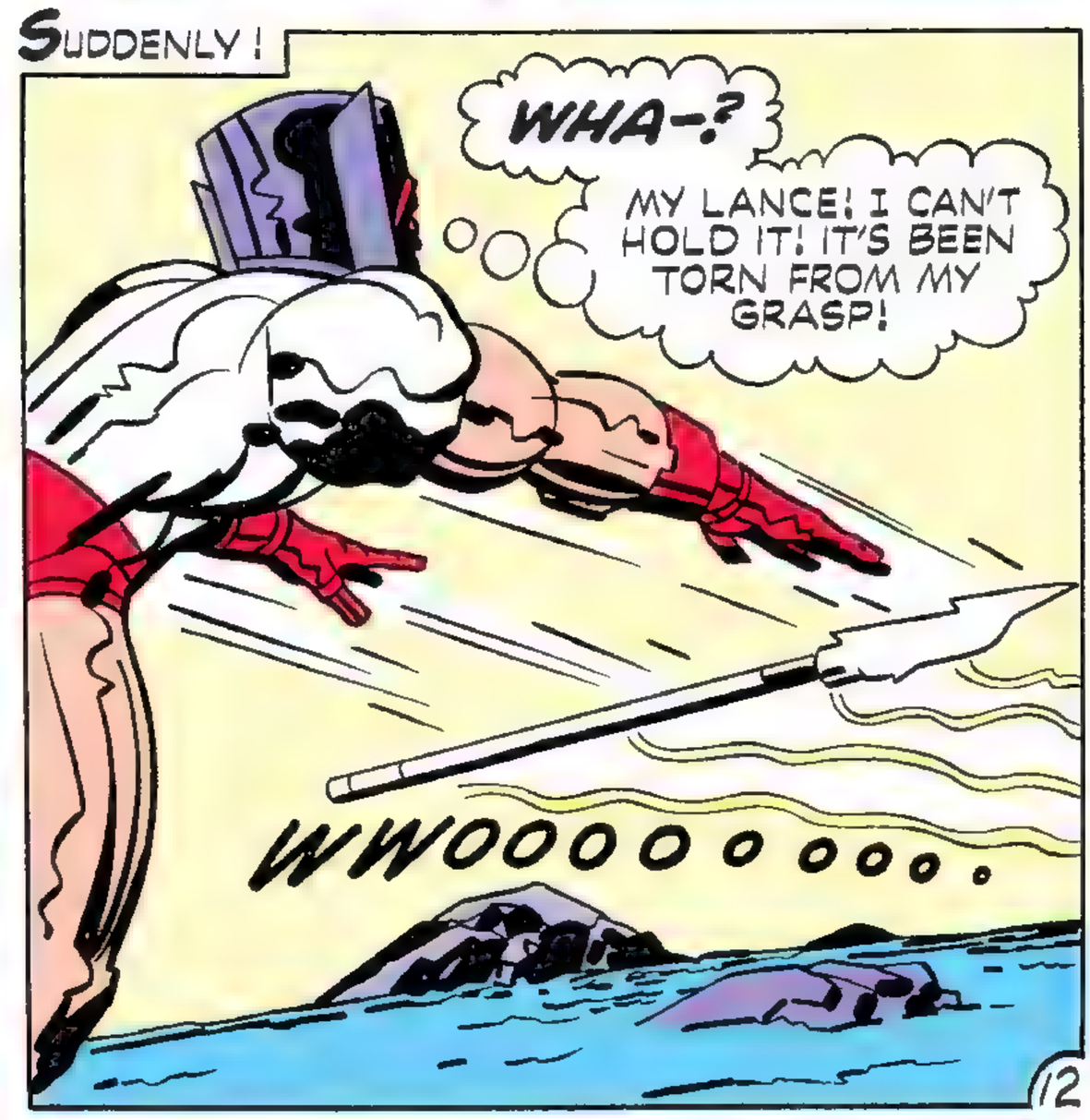
THE FOREVER PEOPLE HAVE RUN OUT OF PLACES TO HIDE! THEIR NEXT ENCOUNTER WITH DEVILANCE SHALL BE THEIR LAST!

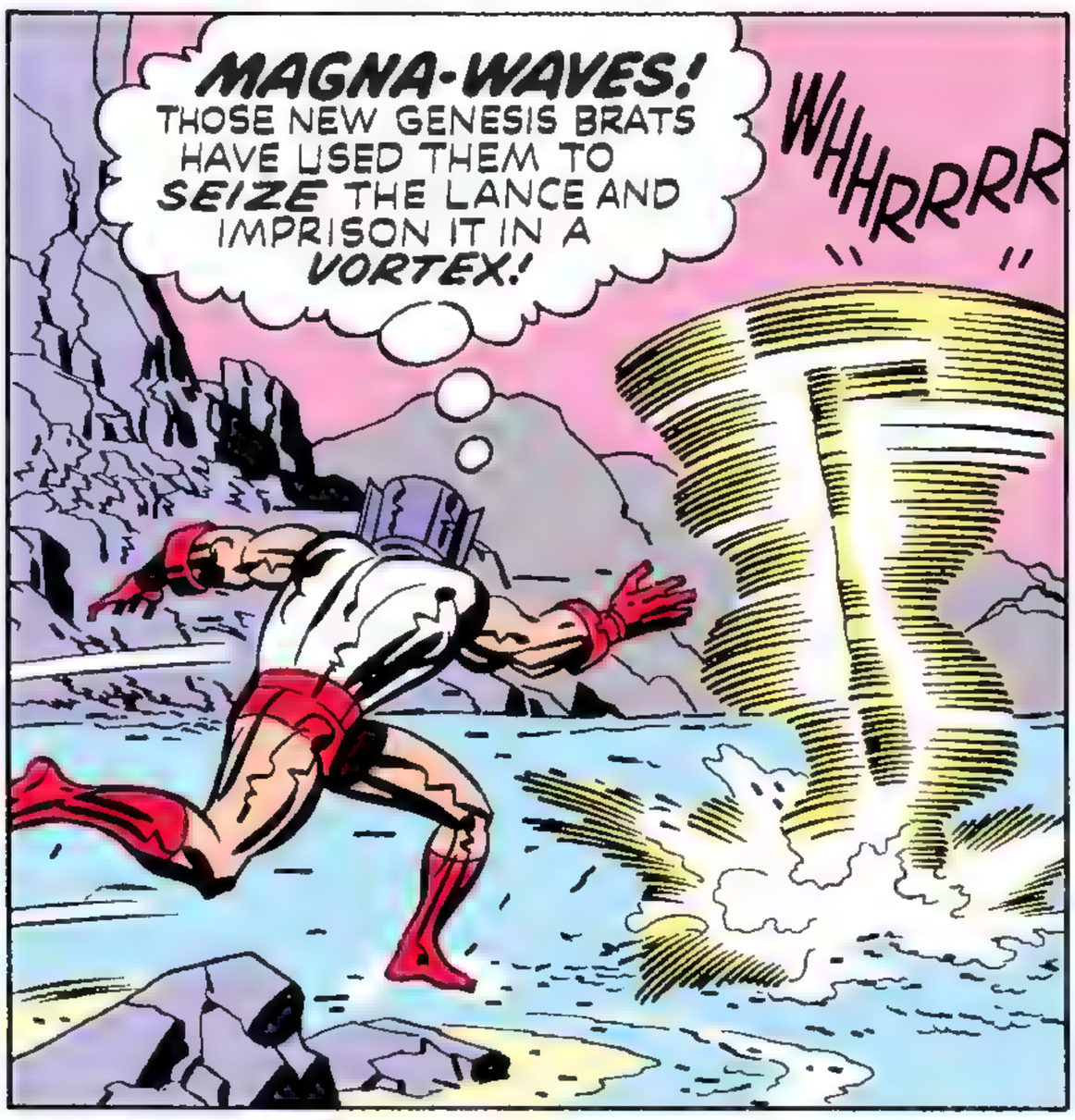

LOOK! ON THE BEACH! THAT FLASH OF ENERGY!
ON A REMOTE ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN, THE FOREVER PEOPLE REAPPEAR--- BUT ON THEIR HEELS---
IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR DEVILANCE TO PICK UP OUR TRAIL! NOW, STAY CALM!


WITH A LITTLE ASSIST FROM MOTHER BOX, WE CAN WREST THAT LANCE FROM THAT DEMON!
YES! DEPRIVED OF HIS WEAPON, DEVILANCE'S POWER IS CONSIDERABLY WEAKENED!


MOTHER BOX GROWS ACTIVE! HER CIRCUITS HUM! SHE GENERATES A POWERFUL FIELD OF MAGNA-WAVES!
WWOOOOOOO

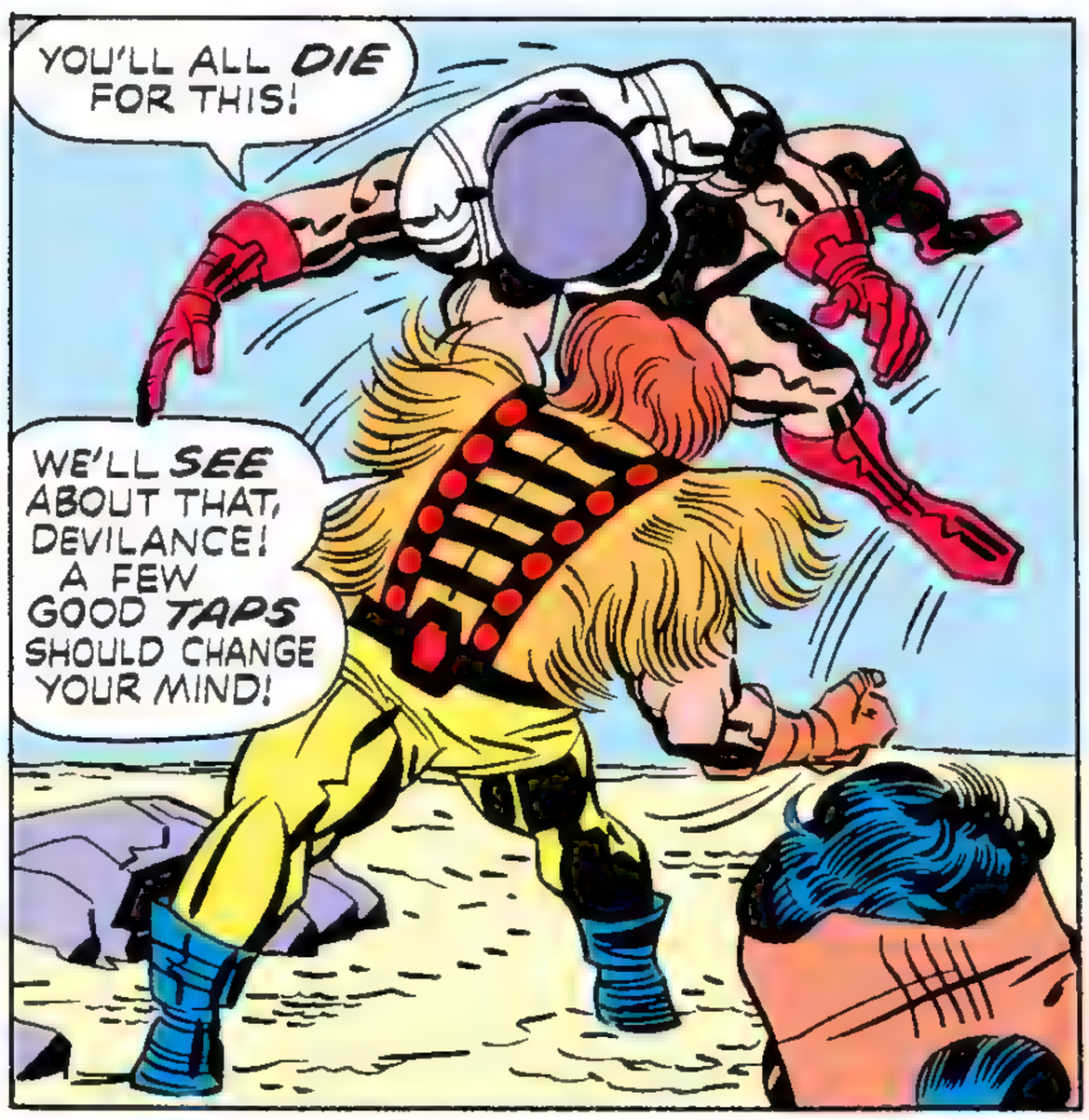

AS FOR DEVILANCE, HIS COBRA-EYES ALREADY SCAN THE ISLAND FOR SIGNS OF HIS QUARRY!
THEY'RE HERE, ALL RIGHT! THE CIRCUITS INSIDE THIS LANCE ARE RESPONDING "POSITIVE!"


SUDDENLY!
WHA-?
MY LANCE! I CAN'T HOLD IT! IT'S BEEN TORN FROM MY GRASP!
WWOOOOOOOOO.
12


MAGNA-WAVES! THOSE NEW GENESIS BRATS HAVE USED THEM TO SEIZE THE LANCE AND IMPRISON IT IN A VORTEX!
WHHRRRRR

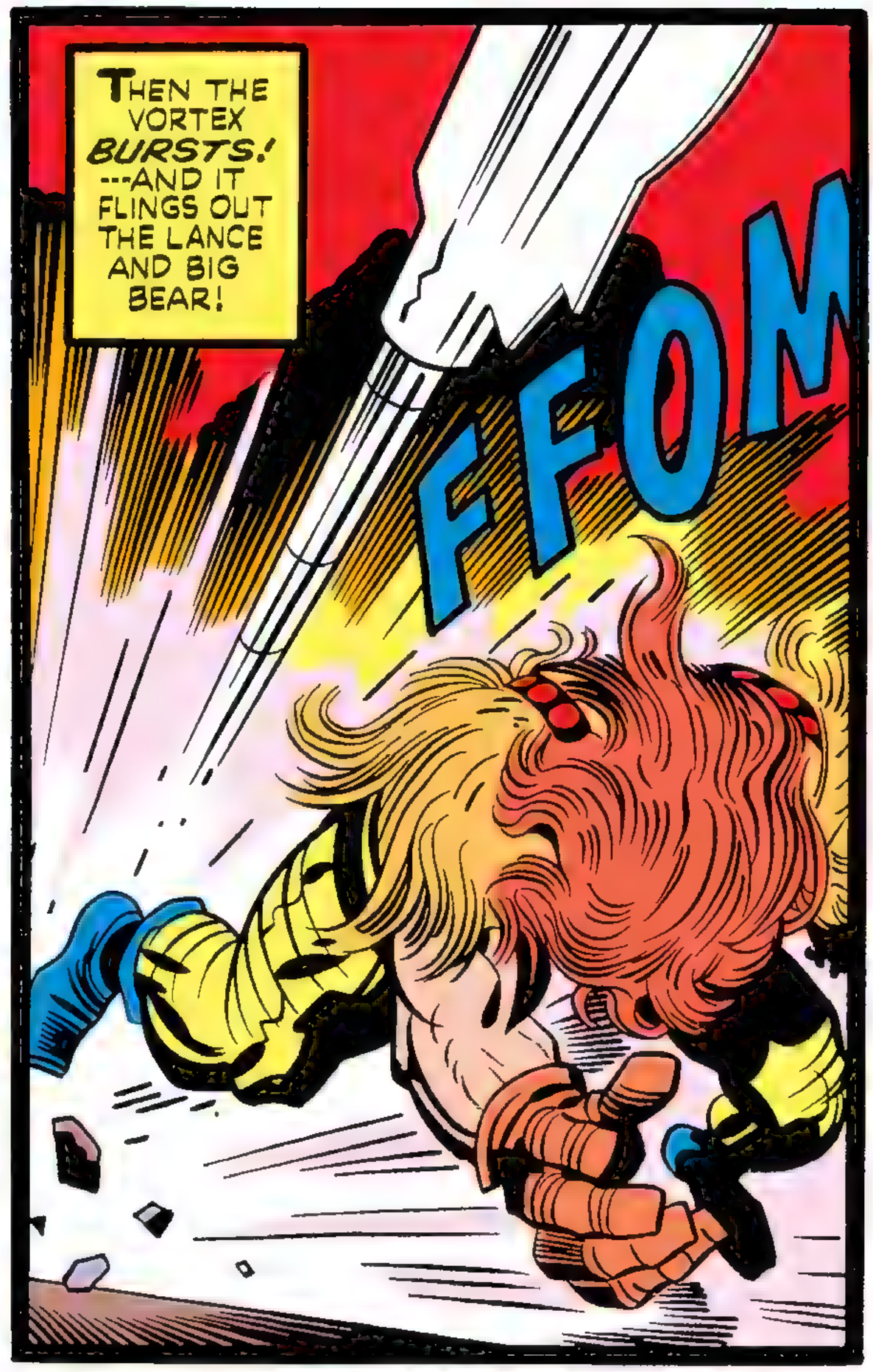
MOONRIDER! SO THAT'S YOUR STRATEGY!
I SHOULD BLAST YOU WITH THE MEGATON TOUCH---! BUT THIS WAY WILL DO!

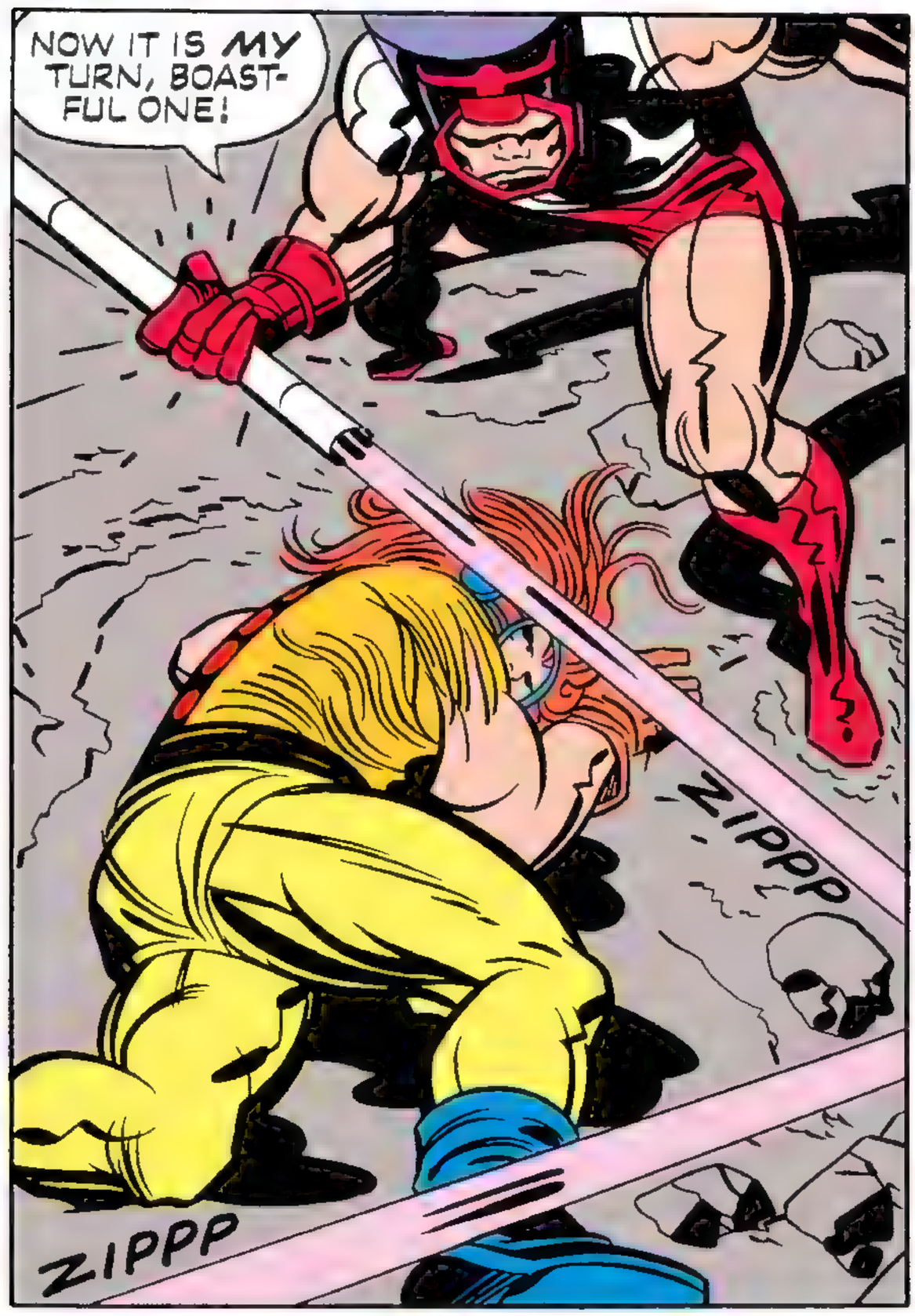
POW!
UGH!
LET ME HAVE HIM NOW, MARK!

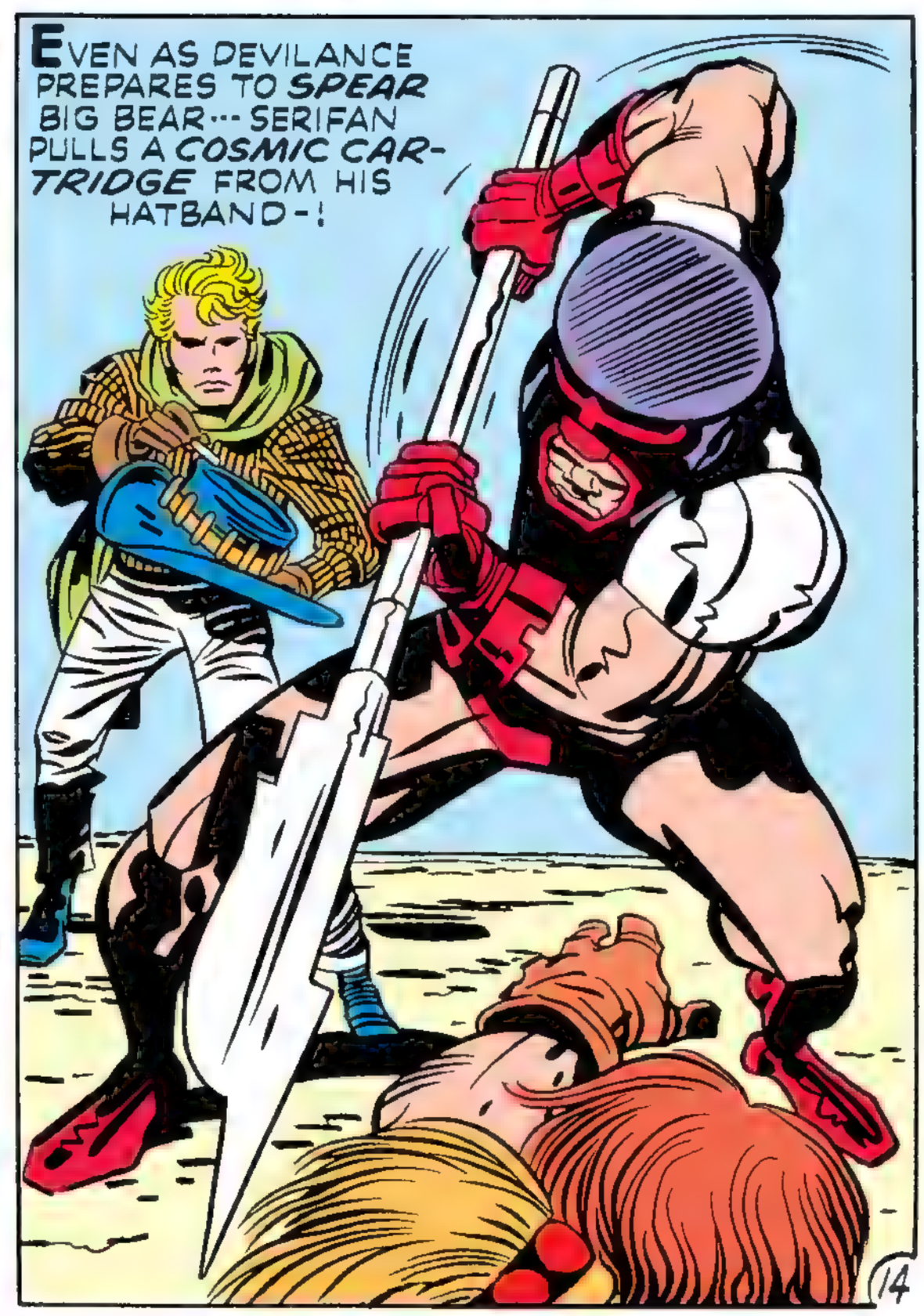

YOU'LL ALL DIE FOR THIS!
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT, DEVILANCE! A FEW GOOD TAPS SHOULD CHANGE YOUR MIND!

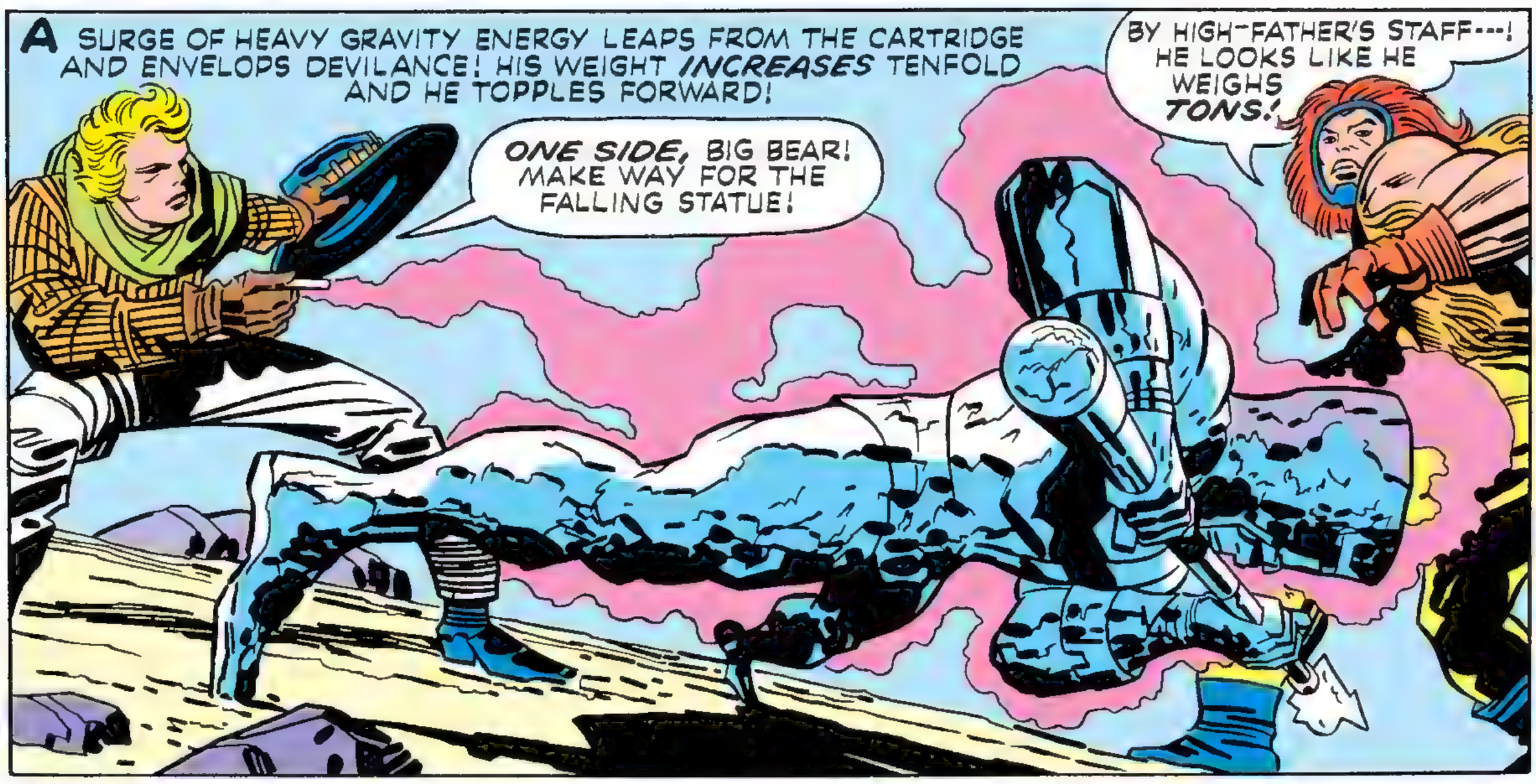
BIG BEAR! LOOK BEHIND YOU! MOVE OUT OF THE WAY! ---BUT FAST!
THE VORTEX HAS TURNED! ---AND IT'S CLOSING IN ON HIM-!
13

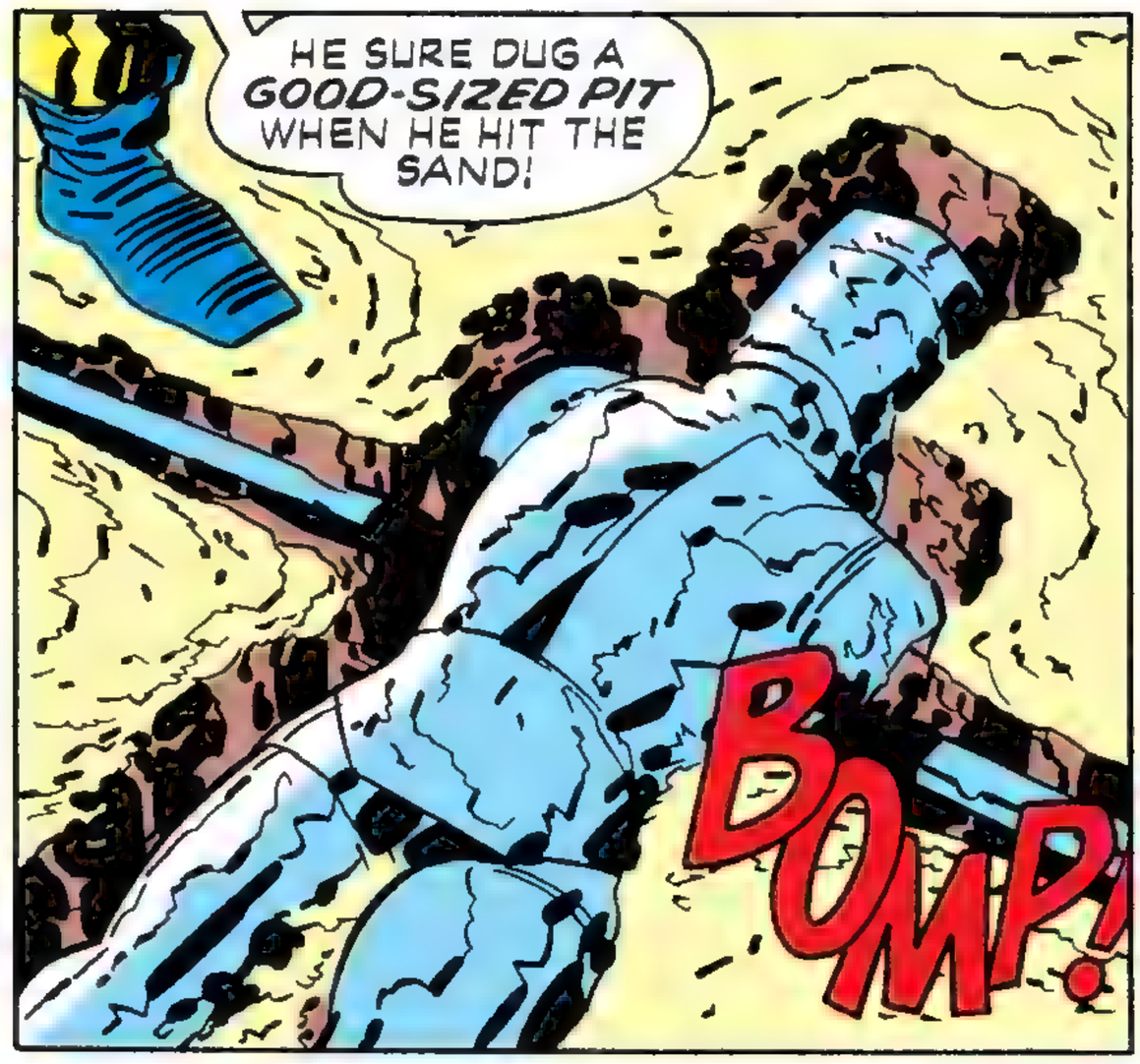
WHRRRRR
YOU FOOLS! THERE ARE COUNTER CIRCUITS IN MY LANCE! IT IS PROGRAMMED TO RETURN TO ME!

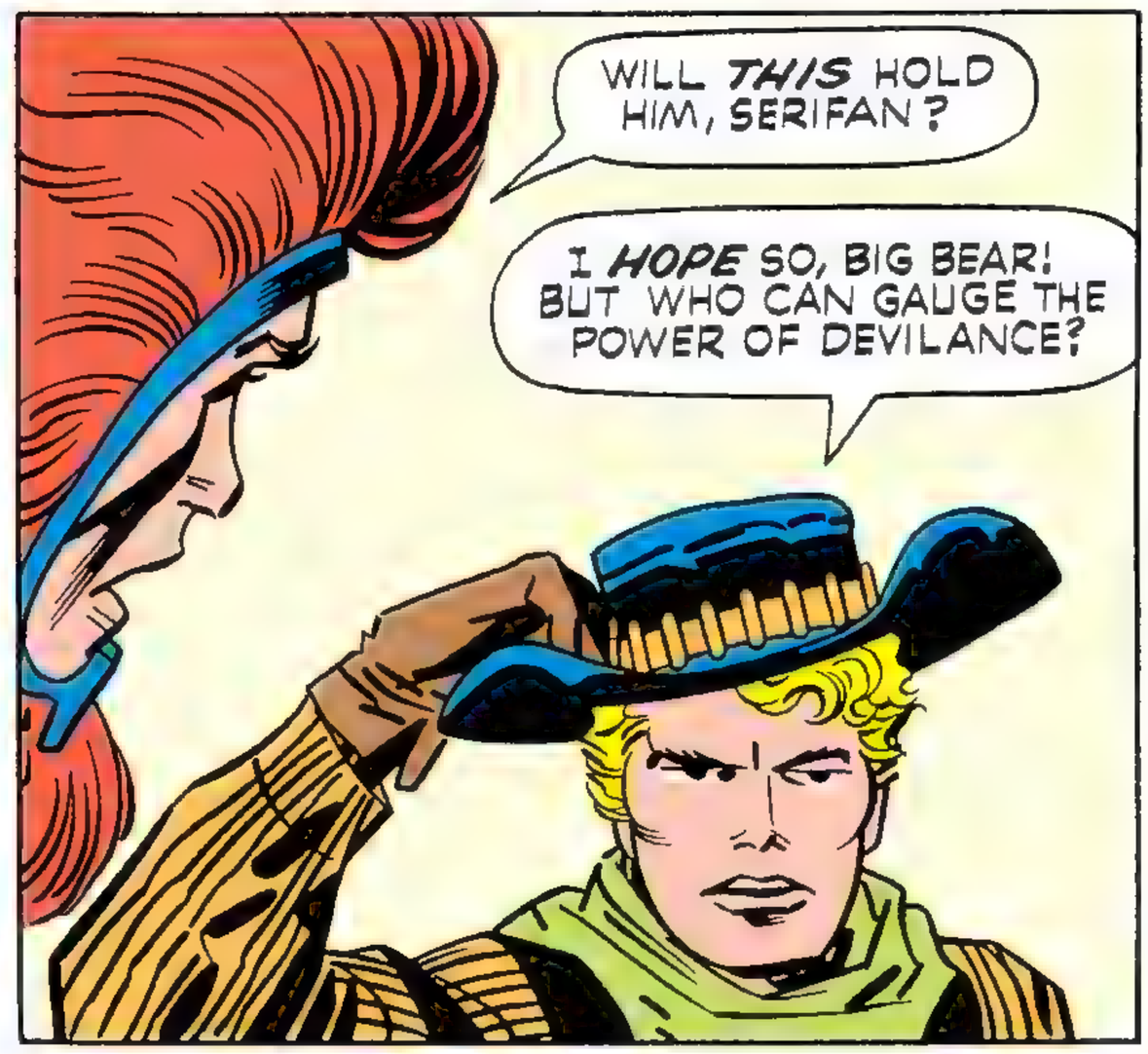

THEN THE VORTEX BURSTS! ---AND IT FLINGS OUT THE LANCE AND BIG BEAR!
FFOM


NOW IT IS MY TURN, BOASTFUL ONE!
ZIPPP
ZIPPP

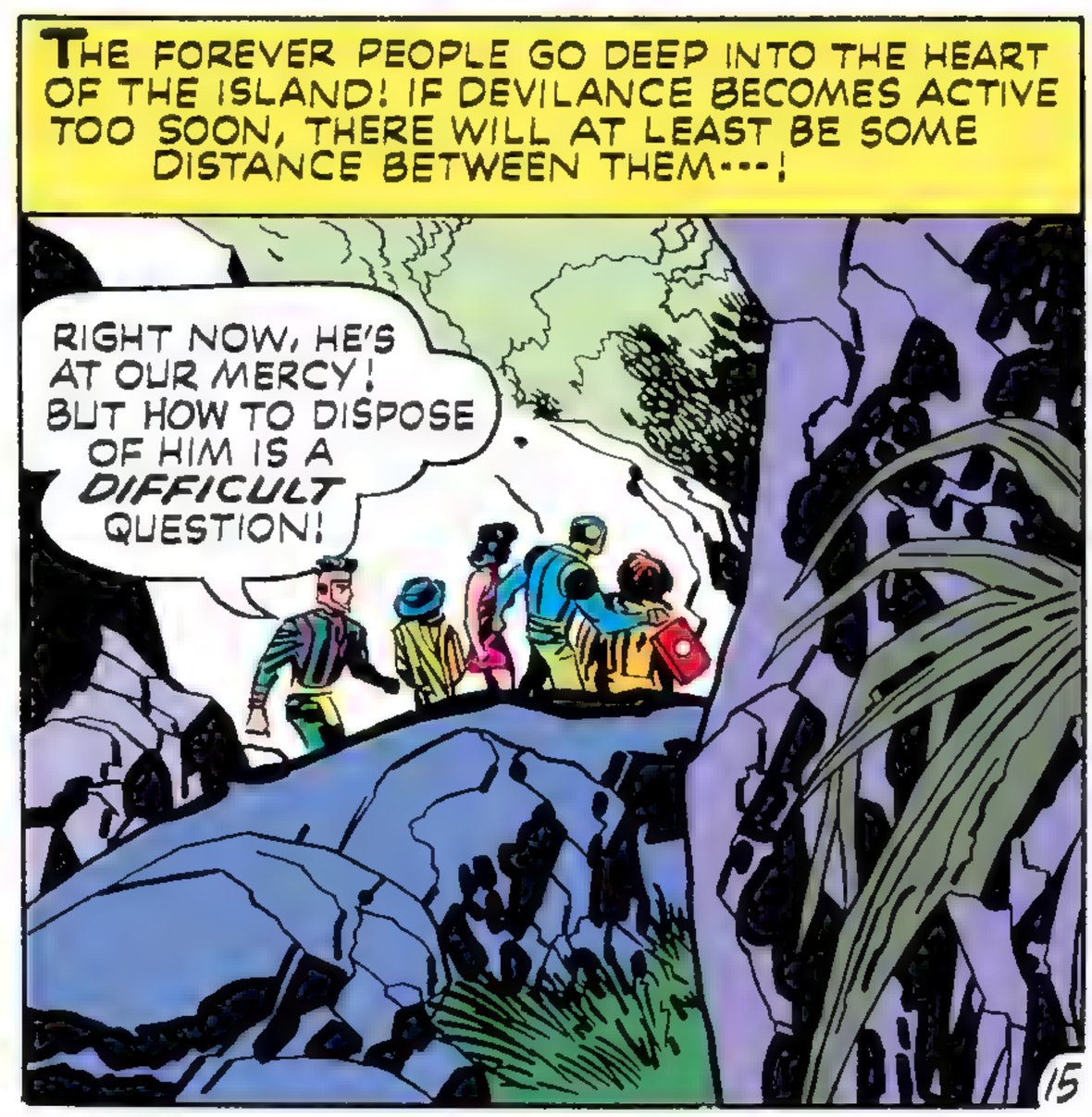

EVEN AS DEVILANCE PREPARES TO SPEAR BIG BEAR--- SERIFAN PULLS A COSMIC CARTRIDGE FROM HIS HATBAND-!
14


A SURGE OF HEAVY GRAVITY ENERGY LEAPS FROM THE CARTRIDGE AND ENVELOPS DEVILANCE! HIS WEIGHT INCREASES TENFOLD AND HE TOPPLES FORWARD!
ONE SIDE, BIG BEAR! MAKE WAY FOR THE FALLING STATUE!
BY HIGH-FATHER'S STAFF---! HE LOOKS LIKE HE WEIGHS TONS!


HE SURE DUG A GOOD-SIZED PIT WHEN HE HIT THE SAND!
BOMP!

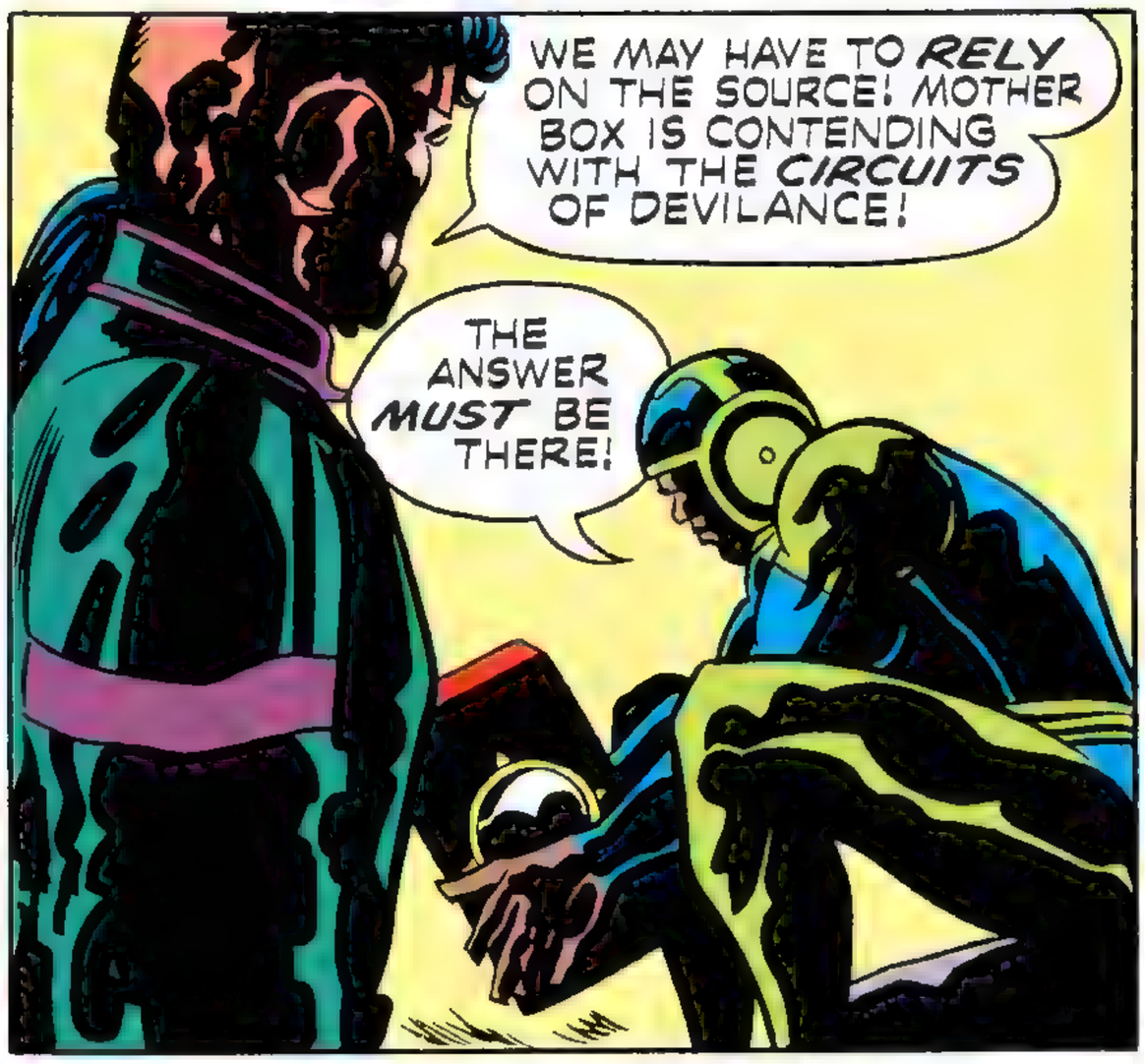

WILL THIS HOLD HIM, SERIFAN?
I HOPE SO, BIG BEAR! BUT WHO CAN GAUGE THE POWER OF DEVILANCE?

LEAVE HIM, SERIFAN!
COME, BIG BEAR! LET'S GO WHERE WE CAN USE THE TIME TO FORM A FINAL DECISION ABOUT HIM---!


THE FOREVER PEOPLE GO DEEP INTO THE HEART OF THE ISLAND! IF DEVILANCE BECOMES ACTIVE TOO SOON, THERE WILL AT LEAST BE SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM---!
RIGHT NOW, HE'S AT OUR MERCY! BUT HOW TO DISPOSE OF HIM IS A DIFFICULT QUESTION!
15

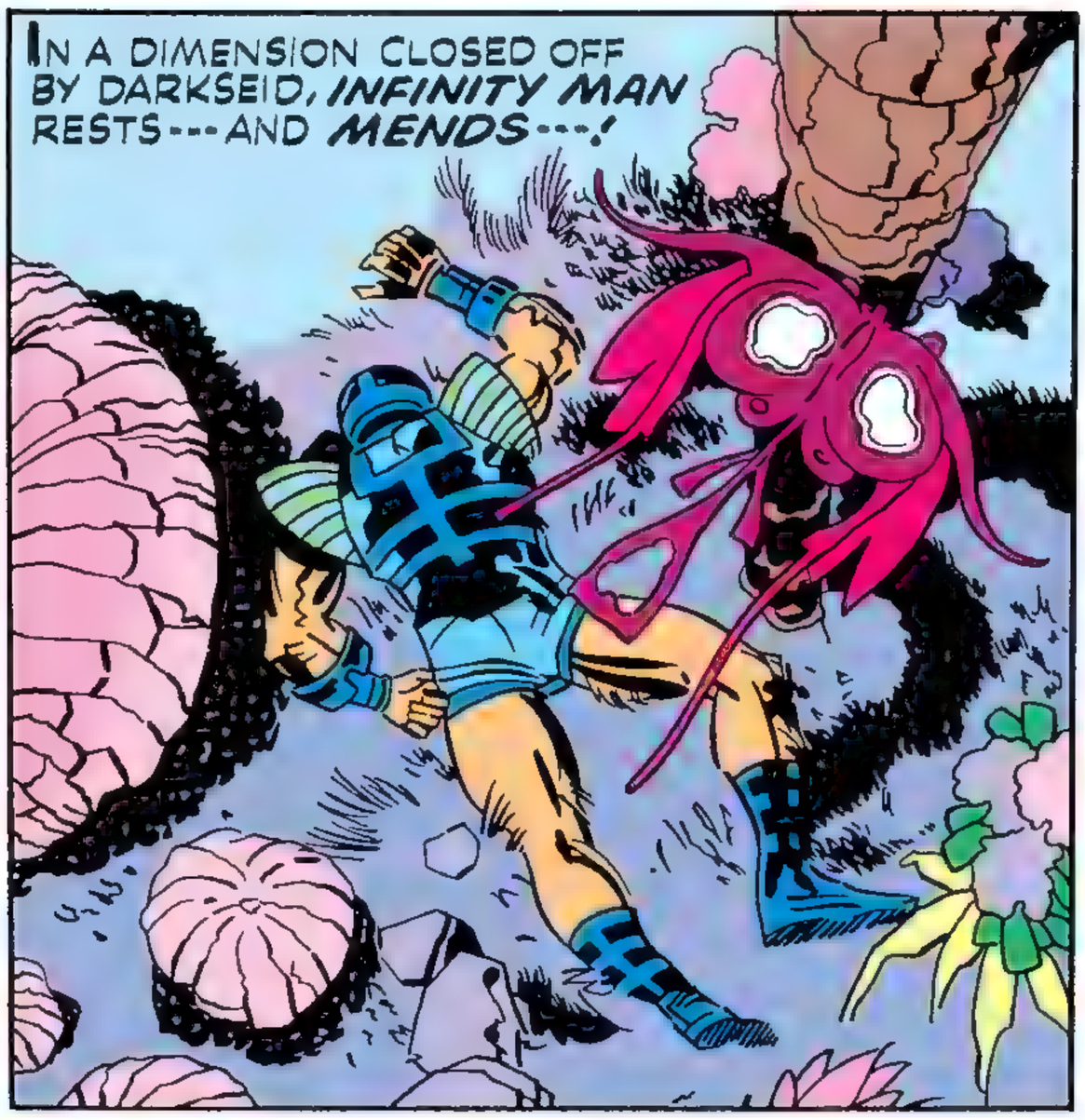
WELL, WE CAN'T KILL DEVILANCE!
OUR CREED IS NON-VIOLENCE!
THEN WE'VE GOT TO BE AT OUR WISEST!

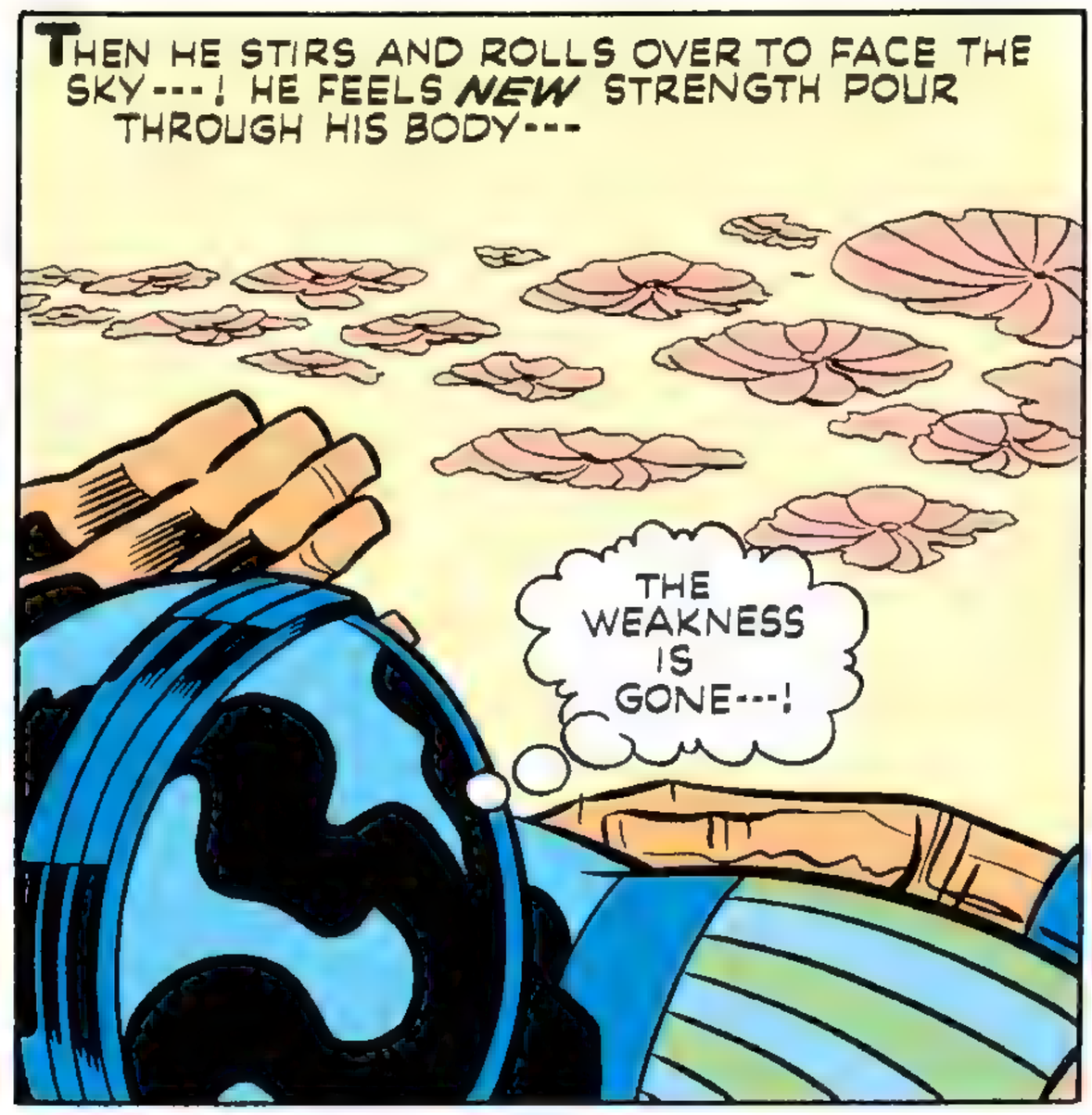
IF ONLY WE HAD THE INFINITE WISDOM OF THE SOURCE! THE ANSWER WOULD SURELY COME!

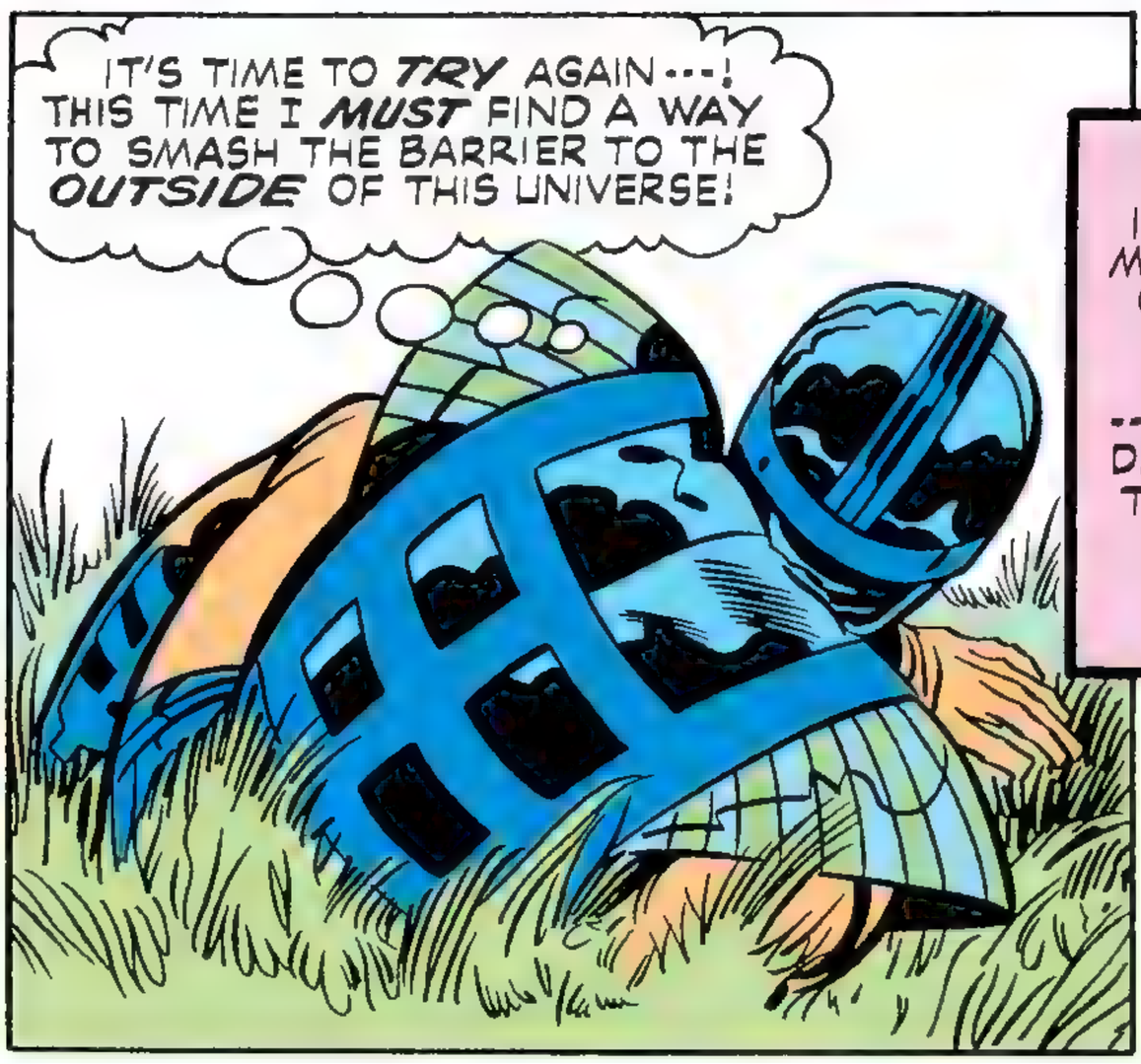

WE MAY HAVE TO RELY ON THE SOURCE! MOTHER BOX IS CONTENDING WITH THE CIRCUITS OF DEVILANCE!
THE ANSWER MUST BE THERE!

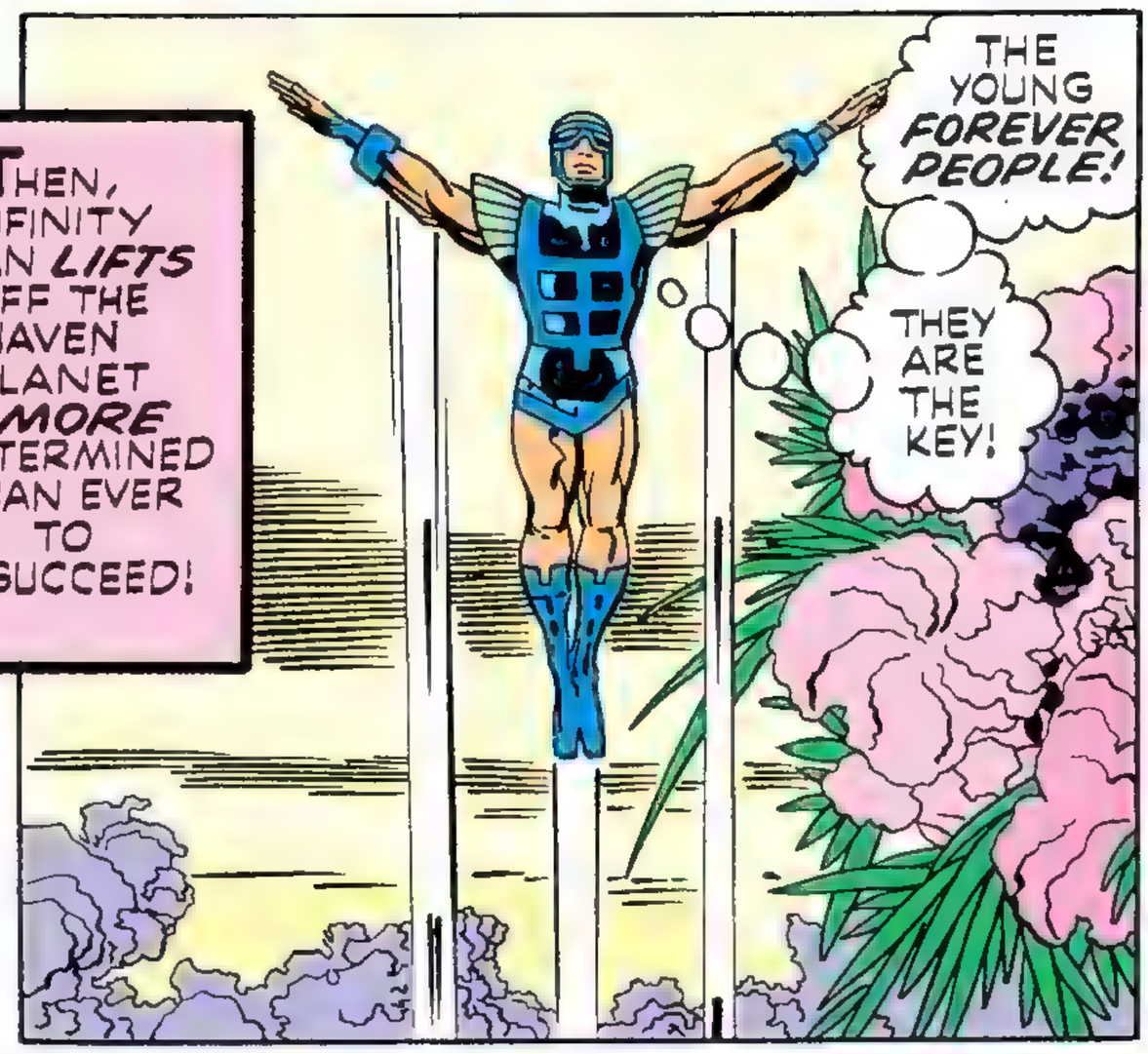
MARK! I-I THINK I HEAR FOOTSTEPS!
IT COULD BE A FOREST ANIMAL---

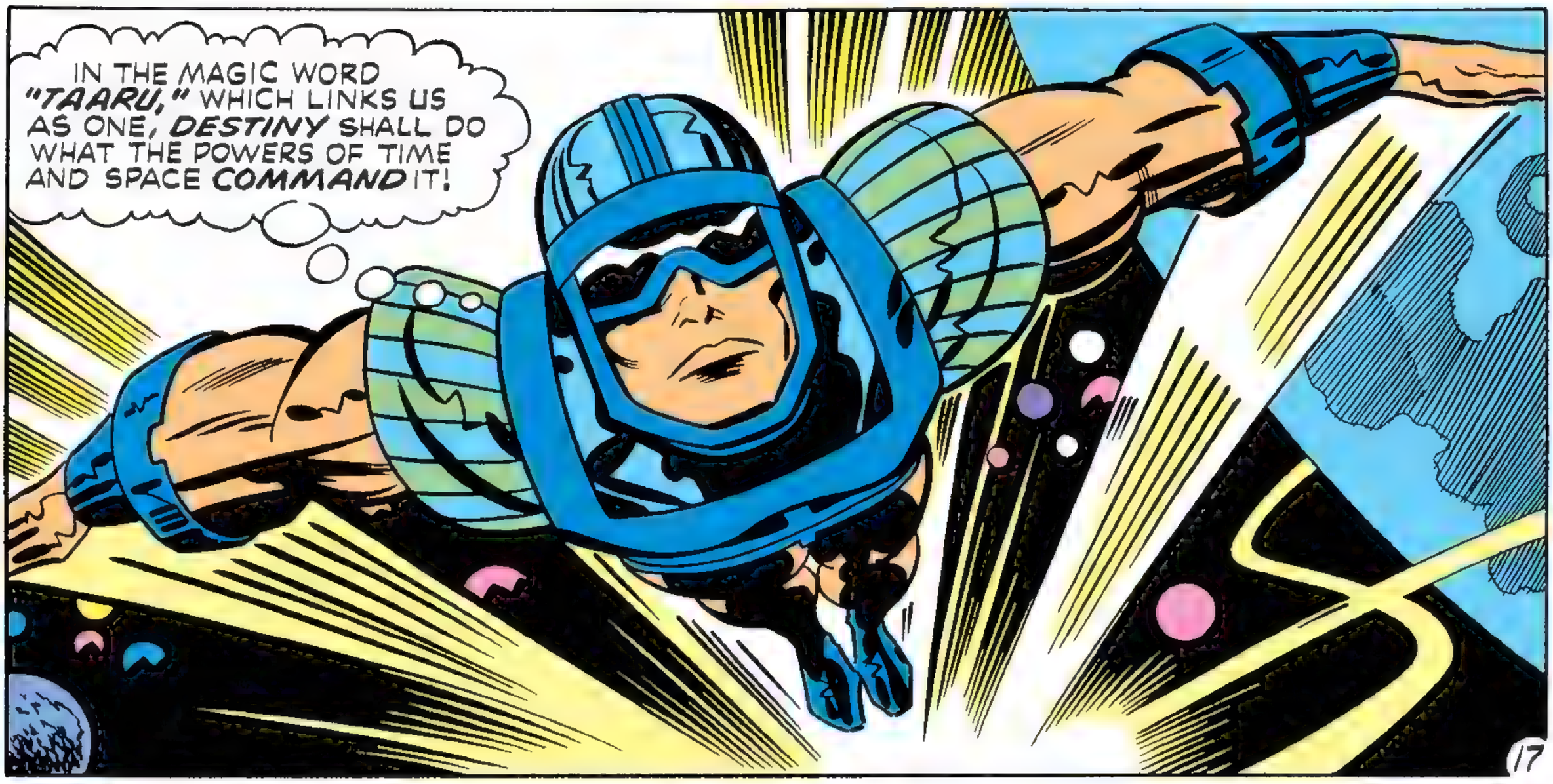
---OR DEVILANCE!
16


IN A DIMENSION CLOSED OFF BY DARKSEID, INFINITY MAN RESTS---AND MENDS---!

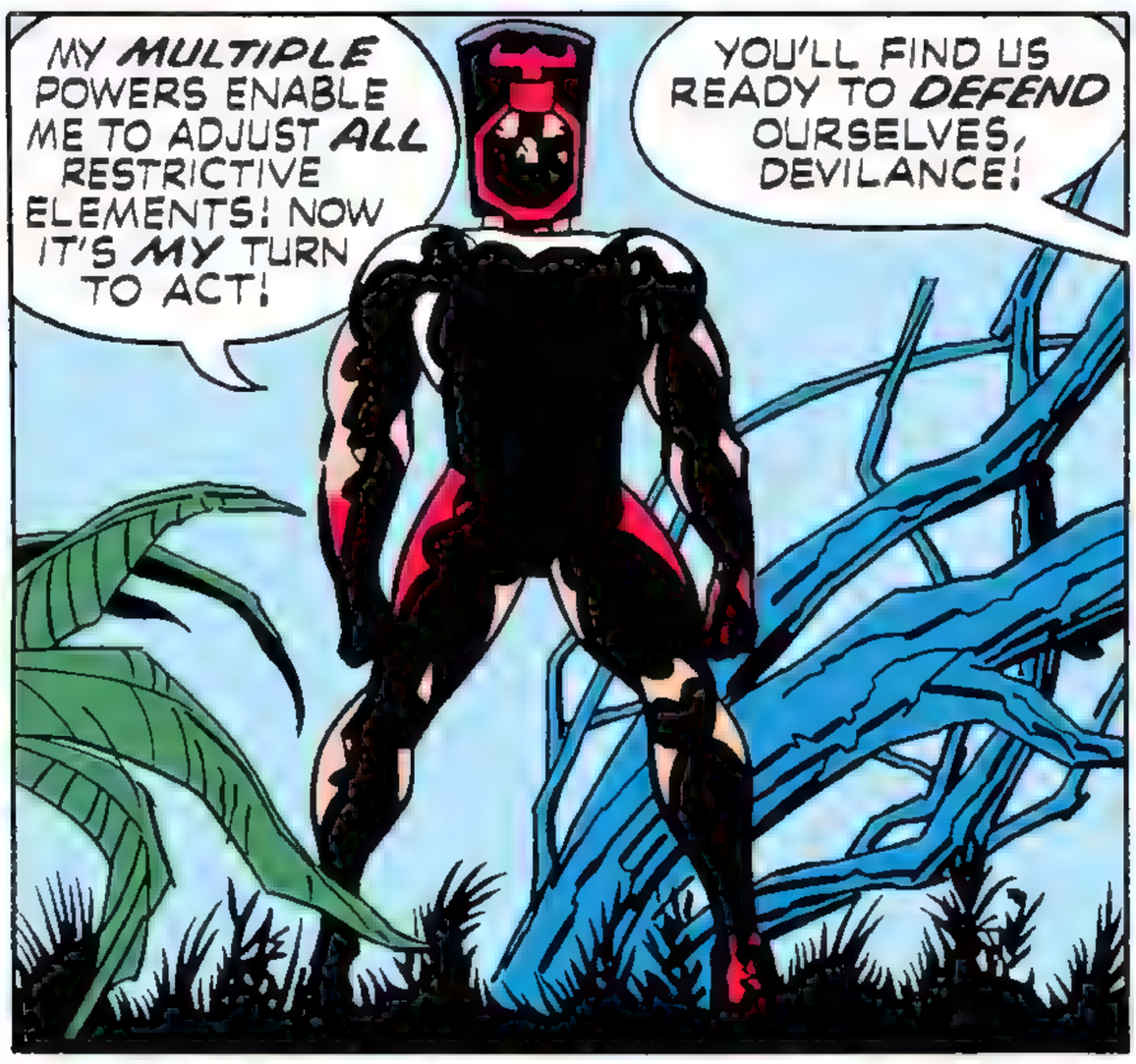

THEN HE STIRS AND ROLLS OVER TO FACE THE SKY---! HE FEELS NEW STRENGTH POUR THROUGH HIS BODY---
THE WEAKNESS IS GONE---!


IT'S TIME TO TRY AGAIN---! THIS TIME I MUST FIND A WAY TO SMASH THE BARRIER TO THE OUTSIDE OF THIS UNIVERSE!

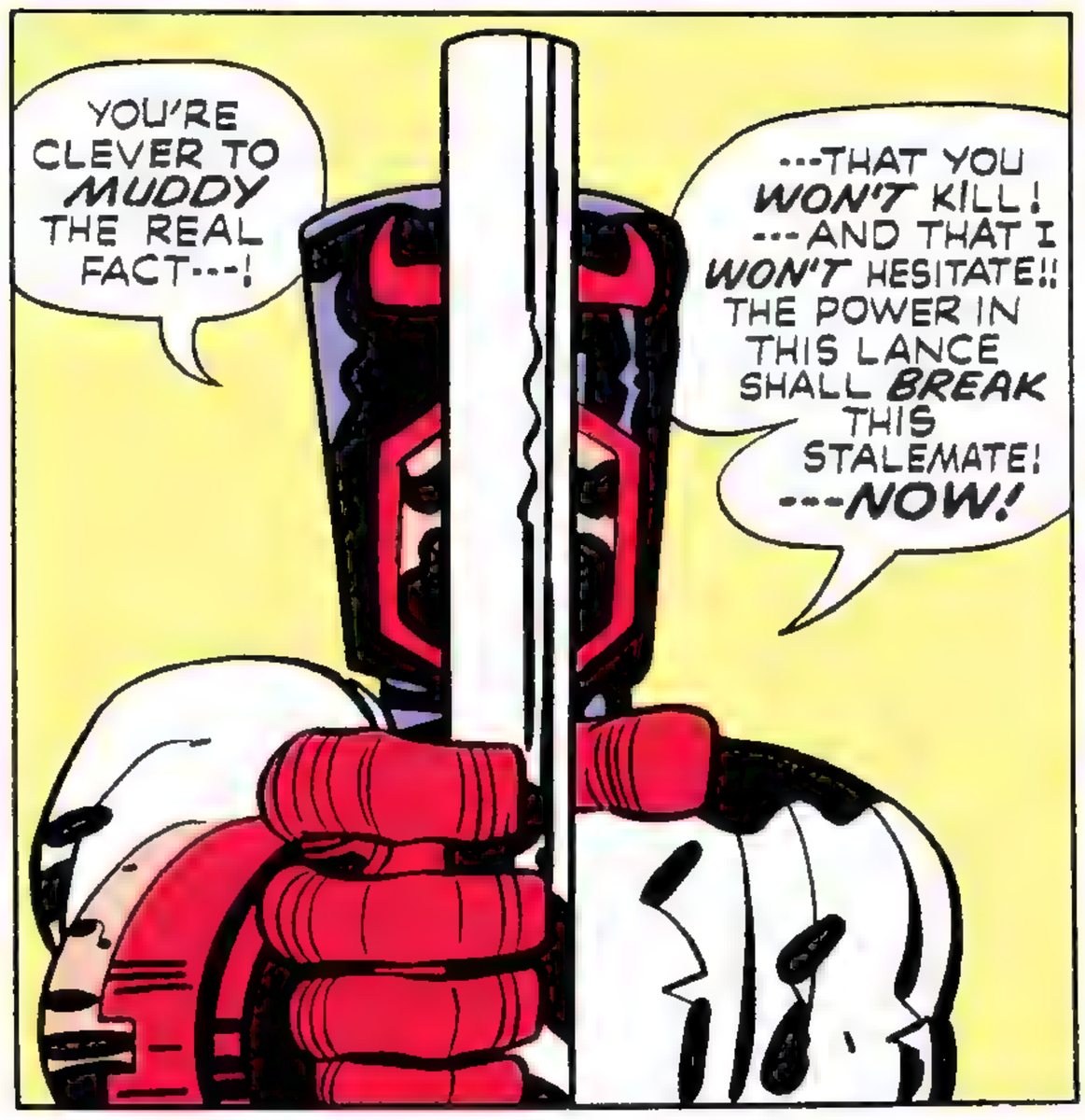

THEN, INFINITY MAN LIFTS OFF THE HAVEN PLANET ---MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER TO SUCCEED!
THE YOUNG FOREVER PEOPLE!
THEY ARE THE KEY!


IN THE MAGIC WORD "TAARU," WHICH LINKS US AS ONE, DESTINY SHALL DO WHAT THE POWERS OF TIME AND SPACE COMMAND IT!
17

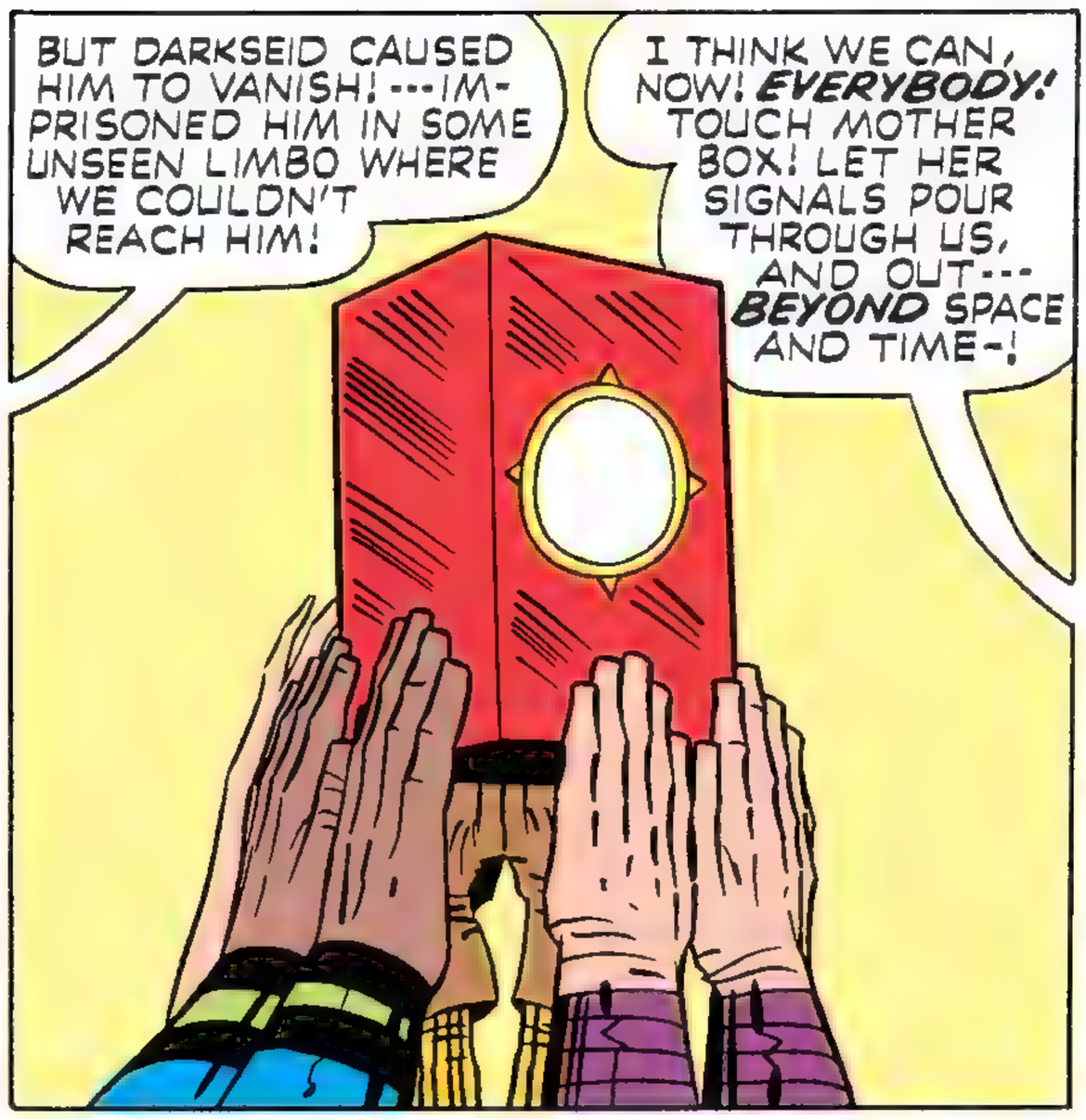
THIS SHOULD SETTLE IT!
DEVILANCE! THERE'S NO STOPPING HIM!
HE'S BROKEN THE GRIP OF HIS HEAVY GRAVITY TRAP!
SFAK!

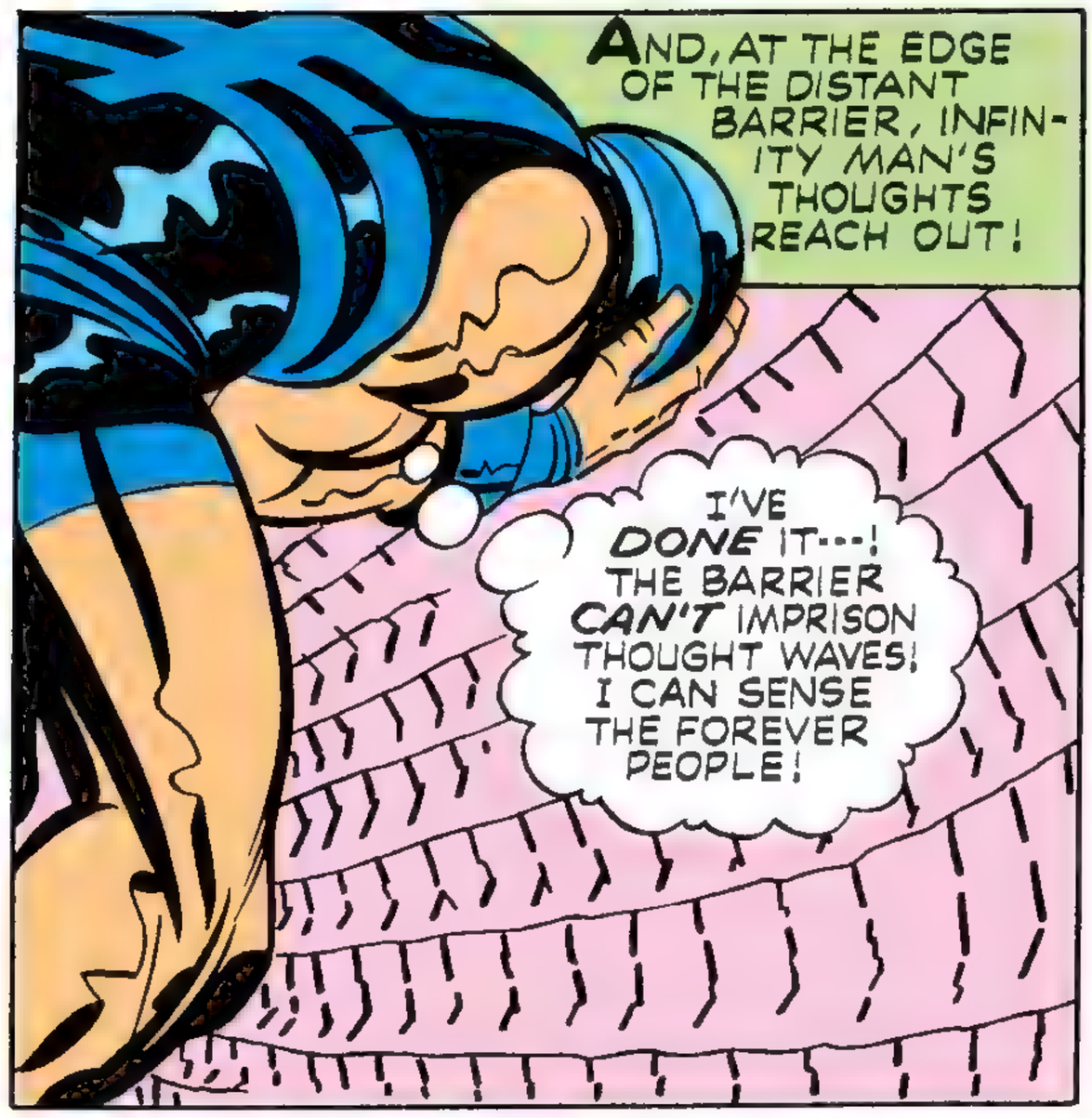

MY MULTIPLE POWERS ENABLE ME TO ADJUST ALL RESTRICTIVE ELEMENTS! NOW IT'S MY TURN TO ACT!
YOU'LL FIND US READY TO DEFEND OURSELVES, DEVILANCE!

---AND YOU KNOW WE CAN! OUR BATTLE MUST END IN STALEMATE!
WOULD YOU FIGHT AN END-LESS WAR?

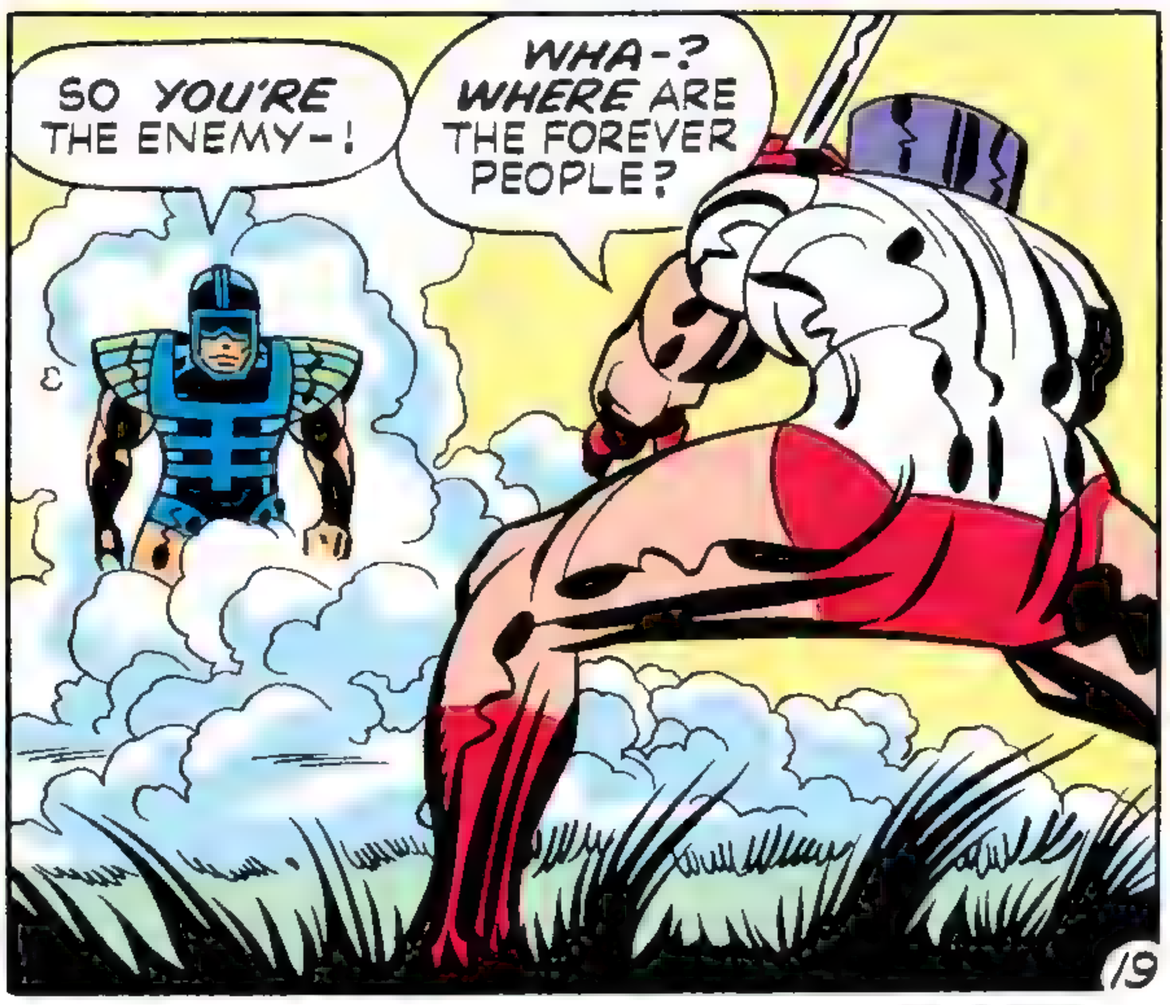

YOU'RE CLEVER TO MUDDY THE REAL FACT---!
---THAT YOU WON'T KILL! ---AND THAT I WON'T HESITATE!! THE POWER IN THIS LANCE SHALL BREAK THIS STALEMATE! ---NOW!

VYKIN! MOTHER BOX RISES! IS SHE CALLING FOR THE "CONTACT RITUAL?"
YES! SHE STRONGLY SENSES A CONTACT WITH INFINITY MAN!
18





THEN, SPACE AND TIME WRENCH AND WARP! WHERE THE FOREVER PEOPLE STOOD TO FACE DEVILANCE---*INFINITY MAN* APPEARS IN THEIR PLACE!!



INFINITY MAN ANSWERS WITH A VIOLENT CHARGE!
SOMEHOW YOU'VE CHEATED ME OF MY QUARRY! I'LL---I'LL---
YOUR ENERGIZED LANCE WON'T HELP YOU!

I'M GOING TO PUT YOU BOTH OUT OF ACTION! I'LL BREAK BOTH OF YOU!
UGH! WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!

DEVILANCE'S WEAPON SUDDENLY LEAPS AND COILS ITSELF AROUND INFINITY MAN! ---TIGHTER! TIGHTER!---
TASTE THE POWER OF DEVILANCE--- AND PERISH! HAHAHA!!

BUT A STRONG COUNTER-FORCE IS BROUGHT AGAINST THE STRANGLING WEAPON!!
SPONNGG!!
20

THE LANCE STRAIGHTENS AND STREAKS OFF! BUT INFINITY MAN SEIZES IT BEFORE IT CAN RETURN TO DEVILANCE!
NO, YOU DON'T!
GIVE ME THAT WEAPON!
THE VERY AIR EXPLODES WITH RELEASED ENERGY AS THE TWO COMBATANTS STRUGGLE FOR POSSESSION OF THE LANCE!
KRAKLE!
THE CHARGED FURY MOUNTS! ---INCREASES! ---RISES TO A PITCH THAT BEGINS TO SHAKE THE ISLAND LOOSE FROM ITS NATURAL ANCHORAGE-!
WHOOOM!
THEN THE ISLAND AND ITS TWO POWERFUL SOURCES OF CONFLICT VANISH IN A CATACLYSMIC BLOW-UP WHICH CAN BE SEEN AND FELT FOR HUNDREDS OF MILES!
BAAARAAAAM!
THROUGH INSTRUMENTS FROM AFAR, TWO WITNESSES OBSERVE THE TRAGEDY---!
THUS, BLIND DESTINY WRITES AN ENDING WELL BEYOND THE WISDOM OF DARKSEID HIMSELF!
IT WAS DEVILANCE'S WEAPON! THE THING COULDN'T BE TAKEN BY AN ENEMY!
21

AND ITS POWER TOOK *ALL* WITH IT! *INFINITY MAN! DEVILANCE!*---AND THE *FOREVER PEOPLE*--- NOW IN A PLACE WHERE THEY MAY STAY *FOREVER!*

WITH THE INFINITY MAN GONE, THEY CAN *NEVER* RETURN! IN THE END, GREAT DARKSEID, DESTINY SPEAKS FOR US ALL!

ON THE FAIR WORLD BEYOND THE BARRIER, WHERE INFINITY MAN ONCE FOUND REPLENISHMENT FOR CONTINUED BATTLE, THE FOREVER PEOPLE FIND---*PEACE!*

MOTHER BOX HAS GIVEN US THE SITUATION!---THIS WORLD MAY BE OUR HOME FOR *ETERNITY!*

ETERNITY, HERE, BECKONS WITH *ENDLESS* WONDERS! LET'S GO FORWARD---AND FIND THEM ALL! IT'S THE *WILL* OF DESTINY!

A MOMENT *STIRS!* A MOMENT *LIVES!* A MOMENT *PASSES ON!* THE YOUNG FOREVER PEOPLE, FOR *THIS* MOMENT, TURN THEIR BACKS TO EARTH AND FACE THEIR FUTURE ON THIS NEW WORLD! WILL THEY RETURN SOMEDAY? DESTINY WILL ANSWER THIS QUESTION, TOO!

22

AND WHILE SOME LEAVE ONE WORLD FOR ANOTHER, LET'S NOT FORGET THE EXCITEMENT OF NEW ENTRIES!!

FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE

DEMON!

ISSUE FOR ISSUE, THE GREATEST NEW COMIC MAGAZINE FOR THE MONEY!

LOOK FOR IT! BUY IT—! READ IT!!!

Beautiful Dreamer

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Adventurer**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **The Forever People**
Base of Operations: **Originally New Genesis, currently the distant planet Adon**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1**
Height: **5'6"** Weight: **128 lbs.**
Eyes: **Blue** Hair: **Black**

HISTORY:
A psychically sensitive young woman born on the planet New Genesis, Beautiful Dreamer is said to be one of the few beings whose mind can comprehend the legendary Anti-Life Equation.

When the diabolical Darkseid, ruler of Apokolips, began to use the Earth as a focal point in his war against New Genesis, he kidnapped Beautiful Dreamer, hid her on Earth, and was finally forced to release her when confronted by Superman and the mysterious Infinity Man.

When Dreamer and her lifelong friends and companions, the Forever People, were reunited, they decided to remain on Earth for a time, to learn more about the planet and perhaps help protect it from Darkseid's evil.

After numerous adventures on Earth, the Forever People found themselves pursued by Devilance, an agent of the villainous Darkseid, and were forced to use their unique ability to trade places with the superpowerful Infinity Man in an effort to save themselves. In the course of their battle, though, Devilance and Infinity Man were seemingly destroyed, leaving the Forever People trapped on the idyllic planet where Infinity Man had been resting when they summoned him. Intrigued by this tranquil paradise, and sensing adventure just over the horizon, the Forever People went forth to explore their new home.

POWER & WEAPONS:
A skilled hand-to-hand combatant, as are all the children of New Genesis, Beautiful Dreamer also possesses the singular ability to isolate images from the minds of others and give those images temporary form by creating frightening, lifelike illusions. There appears to be no limit to the size or duration of these images.

The Forever People also possess a Mother Box, a living computer which gives various kinds of aid to the children of New Genesis.

Art: Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

BIG BEAR

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Adventurer, Pilot**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **The Forever People**
Base of Operations: **Originally New Genesis, currently the distant planet Adon**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1**
Height: **6'5"** Weight: **252 lbs.**
Eyes: **Green** Hair: **Red**

HISTORY:
Little is known of Big Bear's early life on New Genesis. The eldest of the Forever People, Big Bear first came to Earth in pursuit of Beautiful Dreamer, who had been kidnapped by the evil Darkseid. After freeing Dreamer, with the aid of Superman and the enigmatic Infinity Man, the Forever People decided to remain on Earth for a time to learn about the planet and protect it from Darkseid's evil schemes.

After numerous adventures on Earth, the Forever People found themselves pursued by Devilance, an assassin under Darkseid's command, and were forced to use their unique ability to trade places with the Infinity Man in an effort to save themselves. In the course of the battle, though, Devilance and the Infinity Man were apparently destroyed, leaving the Forever People trapped on the idyllic planet where Infinity Man had been resting when summoned. Intrigued by this tranquil paradise, and sensing adventure, the Forever People went forth to explore their new home.

POWERS & WEAPON:
A skilled hand-to-hand combatant, Big Bear is also among the strongest of the children of New Genesis, making him superstrong by human standards, capable of bending steel and hurling giant redwood trees almost effortlessly.

Big Bear's atomic structure is reinforced by a constant flow of so-called high-density atoms, and he is also able to store an excess of free-flowing atoms that he can direct at will to reinforce the power of his already awesome punch.

Big Bear is also the pilot of the Super-Cycle, the incredible vehicle which is the Forever People's principal form of transportation. Able to soar soundlessly through the sky as well as reshift its atoms so it can pass through solid objects, the Super-Cycle is also capable of phasing, traveling the electron stream to a new destination in a matter of moments once Big Bear has programmed new coordinates into the Cycle's handlebar computer.

The Super-Cycle is in frequent contact with Mother Box, a so-called living computer possessed by the Forever People, which gives various forms of assistance to the children of New Genesis.

Art by Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

DeSaad

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Master Torturer**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **Member of Darkseid's Ruling Elite**
Base of Operations: **Apokolips**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #2**
Height: **5'11"** Weight: **152 lbs.**
Eyes: **Black** Hair: **Black**

HISTORY:
Desaad was one of the earliest allies of Darkseid in his rise to power on the planet Apokolips. Desaad was an inventor who specialized in the creation of weapons and devices for torturing and killing, usually in a protracted, painful manner. In fact, Desaad took a perverse, perhaps addictive pleasure in using Apokolips technology to experience the emotions of his victims as he made them suffer. Desaad designed weapons for the young Darkseid, who came to appreciate Desaad's macabre sense of humor at the expense of their victims.

Queen Heggra of Apokolips disapproved of her son Darkseid's courting of the sorceress Suli, whom Darkseid finally wed secretly. Heggra had Desaad poison Suli. However, although Darkseid was infuriated at Desaad's betrayal, they remained allies, and he forced Desaad to murder Heggra secretly, thus making Darkseid ruler of Apokolips.

Desaad acted as Darkseid's right-hand man during the first series of battles between the forces of Apokolips and New Genesis on Earth. However, during a fight between Darkseid's sons Orion and Kalibak, Desaad used his technology to increase Kalibak's strength to a level greater than Orion's. Desaad then used his machines to experience the emotions of the two combatants from afar. Furious that Desaad's meddling might lead to Orion's death, Darkseid disintegrated Desaad with his Omega Effect. Sometime later, though, regretting the loss of his confidant, Darkseid used the Omega Effect to resurrect Desaad.

POWERS & WEAPONS:
Desaad possesses no known superpowers. He is a brilliant inventor of weapons for killing and torture. Perhaps his most spectacular achievement was "Happyland," an amusement park that, behind the scenes, actually served as a prison for his victims. The prisoners were anguished over the seeming indifference of the park's customers to their plight, unaware that Desaad's technology caused the visitors to see them as something other than what they were.

Art: Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

THE FOREVER PEOPLE

BEAUTIFUL DREAMER

BIG BEAR

MARK MOONRIDER

SERIFAN

VYKIN THE BLACK

HISTORY:
The Forever People are a group of five adolescents from the planet New Genesis who have been lifelong friends and companions, and who for a time lived on Earth, seeking to thwart the evil schemes of Darkseid, ruler of Apokolips.

The only young woman in the group is Beautiful Dreamer, who can perceive images in the minds of others and manifest them as illusions. Big Bear possesses superhuman strength and pilots the Forever People's Super-Cycle, which can fly, pass through solid objects by shifting its atoms, and even "phase" (teleport itself) to another location almost instantaneously. The Cycle is also armed with various weapons. Mark Moonrider can generate jolts of energy with his "megaton touch." Serifan carries "cosmic cartridges" that serve various functions, such as creating force-fields or generating antigravity. Vykin the Black possesses magnetic powers.

The Forever People carry with them a so-called living computer, a Mother Box, which provides various services for the five companions. When the Forever People touch the Mother Box and say the word "Taaruu," they exchange places with a mysterious being called Infinity Man, who possesses many extraordinary powers.

When Darkseid first launched his operations on Earth, he kidnapped Beautiful Dreamer and hid her there. The other Forever People went to Earth to rescue their friend, and Darkseid was forced to release her when he was confronted by both Superman and Infinity Man, whom the Forever People had summoned. The five Forever People decided to remain on Earth for a while to learn about the planet and to protect its people from Darkseid's plots.

After various clashes with Darkseid and his minions, the Forever People found themselves pursued by his agent Devilance. To save themselves, the Forever People exchanged places with Infinity Man once again. Devilance and Infinity Man were seemingly destroyed in the course of their battle, leaving the Forever People trapped on the distant planet Adon, where Infinity Man had been resting when the Forever People summoned him. Fascinated by the idyllic paradise in which they found themselves, and sensing that new adventures awaited them, the Forever People began to explore their new home. What happened to them has not yet been recorded.

First Appearance: THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1

Art by Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

GLORIOUS GODFREY

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Revelationist**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **Darkseid's Elite**
Base of Operations: **Apokolips**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #3**
Height: **5'11"** Weight: **195 lbs.**
Eyes: **Blue** Hair: **Red**

HISTORY:
An orator with incredible persuasive powers, Glorious Godfrey was sent to Earth by Darkseid, monstrously evil monarch of the dark planet Apokolips, to spread rhetoric and unrest that would help pave the way for Darkseid's coming. With the support of his traveling road show, Glorious Godfrey preached the wonders of Anti-Life, the equation for which being Darkseid's ultimate goal.

Those who opposed Godfrey's position were hunted down and dealt with by members of Godfrey's personal army called the Justifiers. These were generally Earthmen who had been swayed by Godfrey's preachings, then completely mind-controlled by the special helmets they all wore.

Before Glorious Godfrey could cause mass rioting throughout America, he and his forces were dealt a crushing blow by the young super-beings from New Genesis who called themselves the Forever People.

Glorious Godfrey has long harbored great jealousy over Darkseid's obvious favoritism toward his master torturer Desaad.

POWERS & WEAPONS:
A subpar athlete and hand-to-hand combatant, Glorious Godfrey's greatest gifts are his overwhelming speaking voice and his extraordinary powers of persuasion. Whether these are natural gifts or have been augmented by the power of Darkseid has yet to be determined. Godfrey employs a private army called the Justifiers, Earthmen who believe Godfrey's rhetoric and had their perceptions completely contorted by Godfrey's words. The special Helmets worn by the Justifiers allow Glorious Godfrey to control his soldiers even when they are not in his presence.

Art by Jack Kirby & Bob Smith

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Inapplicable**
Marital Status: **None**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **None**
Base of Operations: **Unknown**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1**
Height: **6'4"** Weight: **247 lbs.**
Eyes: **Unknown** Hair: **Unknown**

HISTORY:
Nothing is known about the origin of the mysterious being called Infinity Man. Nor is it known how he first became associated with the Forever People, a group of five adolescents from the planet New Genesis.

What is known is that the Forever People carry with them a so-called living computer called a Mother Box. When the Forever People wish to summon Infinity Man, the Mother Box levitates. Then the Forever People touch the Mother Box and speak the word "Taaruu." This causes them to exchange places with Infinity Man, who can then use his extraordinary powers on their behalf. When Inifinity Man's task for the Forever People is done, he vanishes, transporting himself back to where he came from, and the Forever People reappear in his place. Exactly where Infinity Man comes from is unknown. It is apparently a place, perhaps within a pocket dimension, where the laws of nature are quite different from those on Earth.

Infinity Man's first known appearance on Earth came when the four boys in the Forever People summoned him to rescue their teammate Beautiful Dreamer from the satanic Darkseid. In a later encounter Darkseid imprisoned Infinity Man behind a strange barrier in an unknown area of space, perhaps in another dimension. Infinity Man made the idyllic planet Adon his base in that realm.

For months the Forever People were unable to exchange places with Infinity Man. Finally, however, they succeeded in doing so in the course of their battle with Devilance the Pursuer. The struggle between Infinity Man and Devilance culminated when Infinity Man seized the Pursuer's energy lance and there was a cataclysmic explosion. Infinity Man and Devilance were apparently both destroyed, and the Forever People were marooned on Adon. But whether the enigmatic Infinity Man is truly dead remains to be seen.

POWERS & WEAPONS:
Infinity Man possesses many incredible powers that he claims derive from the fact that he comes from a place where the natural laws of Earth do not apply.

Among Infinity Man's known powers are his vast superhuman strength and an antigravity power that enables him to fly. He can project bolts of tremendous force and waves of magnetic energy. Infinity Man can rearrange the molecular structure of objects. He can make objects nonsolid so that he can pass through them. Infinity Man has a large degree of invulnerability. He can telekinetically control the motion of objects.

Infinity Man shares the knowledge possessed by the Forever People and is linked to them in some unknown manner.

Art by Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Agent of Darkseid**
Marital Status: **Unknown**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **Member of Darkseid's Elite**
Base of Operations: **Apokolips**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE # 2** and **THE NEW GODS #2** (published in the same month)
Height: **6'4"** Weight: **275 lbs.**
Eyes: **Red, now possibly orange**
Hair: **Unknown, possibly none**

HISTORY:
Virtually nothing is known about the origin of the being called Mantis. He is apparently somehow related to the "bug" people of the planet New Genesis, whom he has called his "kin." Mantis has also claimed to have been given at least some of his superhuman powers by Darkseid, ruler of the planet Apokolips, where Mantis usually lives.

Mantis preceded Darkseid in coming to Earth. Mantis intended to conquer and rule as much of Earth as he could. Darkseid permitted Mantis to do so, hoping that the chaos that Mantis created would help him in locating the human mind holding the all-powerful Anti-Life Equation. The Forever People of New Genesis summoned the mysterious Infinity Man, who defeated Mantis, ending his first assault on Earth.

Next Mantis organized the inhabitants of the "bug" colonies of New Genesis into an army that invaded Earth. Lightray, Orion, and Forager of New Genesis fought Mantis and his army and forced them to retreat from Earth.

Recently, Mantis has aided Darkseid in the latter's attempt to conquer Earth. Mantis's appearance has considerably changed lately, but it is unclear whether Mantis is simply wearing a new costume or whether he has undergone a permanent or temporary physical transformation.

POWERS & ABILITIES:
Mantis is the most powerful being on Apokolips apart from Darkseid himself. Mantis is an "energy vampire," capable of absorbing any form of energy, including magic, and then using it against an opponent.

Mantis can also generate and build vast amounts of cosmic energy through resting in his "power pod," which he keeps underground where he dwells.

Mantis can fire powerful energy blasts. He can charge any object he touches with great destructive energy.

Mantis can generate tremendous heat with his "thermal touch" or use his touch to create incredibly low temperatures, thereby imprisoning a victim in a nearly indestructible "frigi-block."

Perhaps Mantis's most destructive power is his ability to create tiny amounts of antimatter within something he touches. Matter and antimatter explode on contact, releasing extraordinary amounts of energy.

Mantis possesses vast superhuman strength and the ability to fly.

Art by Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

MARK MOONRIDER

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Adventurer**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **The Forever People**
Base of Operations: **Originally Super Town, currently the distant planet Adon**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1**
Height: **5'11"** Weight: **169 lbs.**
Eyes: **Blue** Hair: **Black**

Nothing is known of Mark Moonrider's early life. It is clear, however, that he was a natural leader and that he numbered among his friends those who were to make up the Forever People. When Darkseid kidnapped Beautiful Dreamer and took her to Earth in an effort to locate the Anti-Life Equation, Mark, without asking the permission of Highfather, led an expedition consisting of himself, Big Bear, Serifan, and Vykin the Black to rescue her.

By calling on the Infinity Man, and with the aid of Superman, the Forever People forced Darkseid to free Beautiful Dreamer. They then decided to remain on Earth to combat Darkseid's future plans, though again without Highfather's consent.

At first they relied largely on the Infinity Man, but when Darkseid banished him, the young heroes were left on their own. Moonrider continued as the group's leader, and they actually found two Earthmen who possessed the Anti-Life Equation. It was their interference that prevented Darkseid from gaining possession of it. (One of the men was sent into the past by Darkseid's Omega Effect: the other was accidentally killed by one of his own guards.)

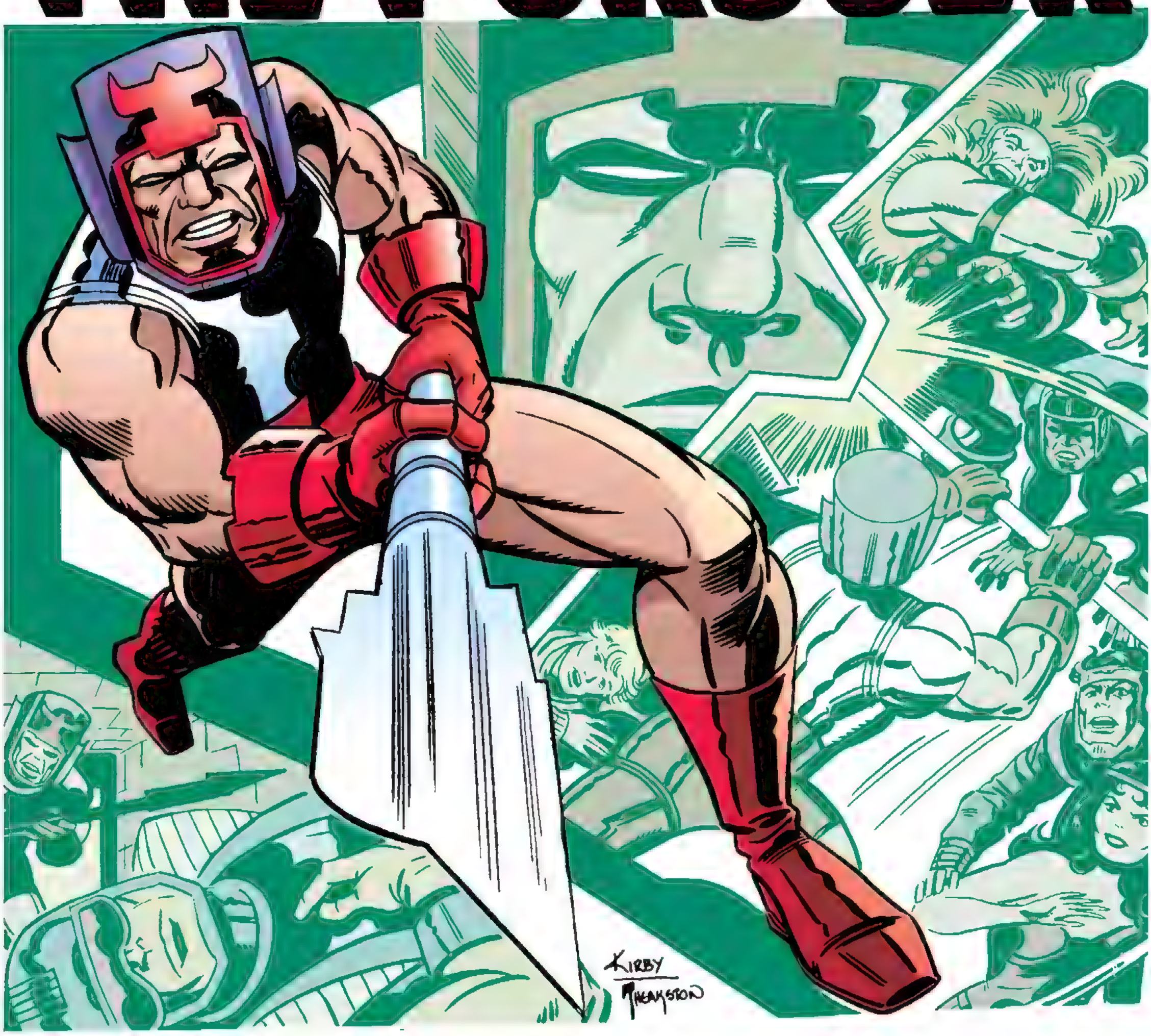
At last Darkseid sent one of his most deadly assassins, Devilance the Pursuer, after the Forever People. Their best efforts to stop him failed, but it was then that the infinity Man, who had been trying to get through to them, finally made contact, and they used their Mother Box to trade places with him. He then fought Devilance to the death–and it seems that this conflict ended in the death of both.

The Forever People were thus stranded on the planet where the Infinity Man had rested during his attempts to reach them. Adon is a beautiful, Edenic planet, rivaling New Genesis itself, but apparently in an otherdimensional continuum capable of keeping even one as powerful as the Infinity Man captive. Accepting their fate, the Forever People set out to explore their new world and have not been heard from since.

POWERS & ABILITIES:
Besides having a keen mind and a strong body and being well trained in hand-to-hand combat, Mark Moonrider possesses a megaton touch. With it, he can cause a tremendous explosion, and no doubt he could easily kill with it if he and his companions were not sworn never to take a life. Used at low intensity, it can cause a severe shock. On one occasion he used his megaton touch to turn solid rock into molten lava. He has stated that there are many other uses for the power, but what these are has yet to be determined.

Art by Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

THE PURSUER



Alter Ego: **Devilance**
Occupation: **Hunter**
Marital Status: **Unrevealed**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **The New Gods of Apokolips**
Base of Operations: **Apokolips**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #11**
Height: **7'1"** Weight: **405 lbs.**
Eyes: **Blue** Hair: **Unrevealed**

HISTORY:
Devilance the Pursuer, one of the New Gods of the planet Apokolips, was trained to become an implacable hunter of victims assigned him by his planet's ruler, Darkseid. His duty was to pursue, trap, and destroy his prey, or else he himself would die. Before Darkseid ordered Devilance to hunt down the young gods of New Genesis known as the Forever People, the Pursuer had never failed a mission.

The Forever People bravely fought Devilance, but they seemed unable to stop him for long themselves. Finally, the Forever People used their sentient computer-like device called a Mother Box to exchange places with the strange but vastly powerful being with whom they were linked, Infinity Man. Thus the Forever People found themselves transported to the peaceful, other-dimensional world of Adon, where Infinity Man used to rest.

During the tremendous battle between Devilance and Infinity Man, the latter seized the Pursuer's multipowered lance. The Pursuer took hold of the lance as well, and fantastic amounts of energy were released as the two combatants struggled to possess the lance. Finally, there was an incredible explosion that utterly destroyed the remote Pacific Island on which the battle was taking place, and apparently killed both Infinity Man and the Pursuer. As a result, the Forever People were stranded on Adon, with no clear means of escape.

However, both Infinity Man and Devilance have many astounding powers, which perhaps could have enabled them to survive their clash. Whether or not Devilance the Pursuer and Infinity Man are truly dead thus remains to be seen.

POWER & WEAPONS:
Devilance the Pursuer has superhuman strength and a high degree of immunity to physical injury. Possibly much of his strength and resistance to injury is due to his ability to increase his own physical density. Devilance also has many undefined powers that enable his body to adjust to and undo the effects of various kinds of weaponry or superpowers used against him. For example, his body can adjust to extreme temperatures.

Devilance's principal weapon is his lance, which serves many functions. It can fire powerful energy blasts. It enables Devilance to fly by holding onto it. It contains circuitry enabling him to track down his victims. Other circuitry causes his lance to return to him if he is separated from it. Devilance can cause his lance's blade to glow with destructive energy. He can also mentally command the lance to leap onto an adversary and tightly coil itself about him.

Art by Jack Kirby & Greg Theakston

SERIFAN

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Adventurer**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **The Forever People**
Base of Operations: **The distant planet Adon**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1**
Height: **5' 7 1/2"** Weight: **143 lbs.**
Eyes: **Blue** Hair: **Blond**

Nothing is known of Serifan's early life on the planet New Genesis, except that he numbered among his friends Beautiful Dreamer, Big Bear, Mark Moonrider, and Vykin the Black, who together with himself would be known as the Forever People.

When Darkseid, master of the planet Apokolips, kidnapped Beautiful Dreamer and took her to Earth in an attempt to discover the Anti-Life Equation, Serifan and the other Forever People came to rescue her without first obtaining the consent of New Genesis's leader, Highfather. The four male Forever People summoned the mysterious Infinity Man, and, confronted by both the Infinity Man and Superman, Darkseid was forced to release Beautiful Dreamer.

The five Forever People then decided to remain on Earth for a time to learn about the planet and to combat Darkseid's future plans there, though again without Highfather's permission. The Forever People found two Earthmen who possessed the Anti-Life Equation, and it was their interference that prevented Darkseid from gaining possession of it. (One of the men was sent into the past by Darkseid's Omega Effect; the other was accidentally killed by one of his own guards.)

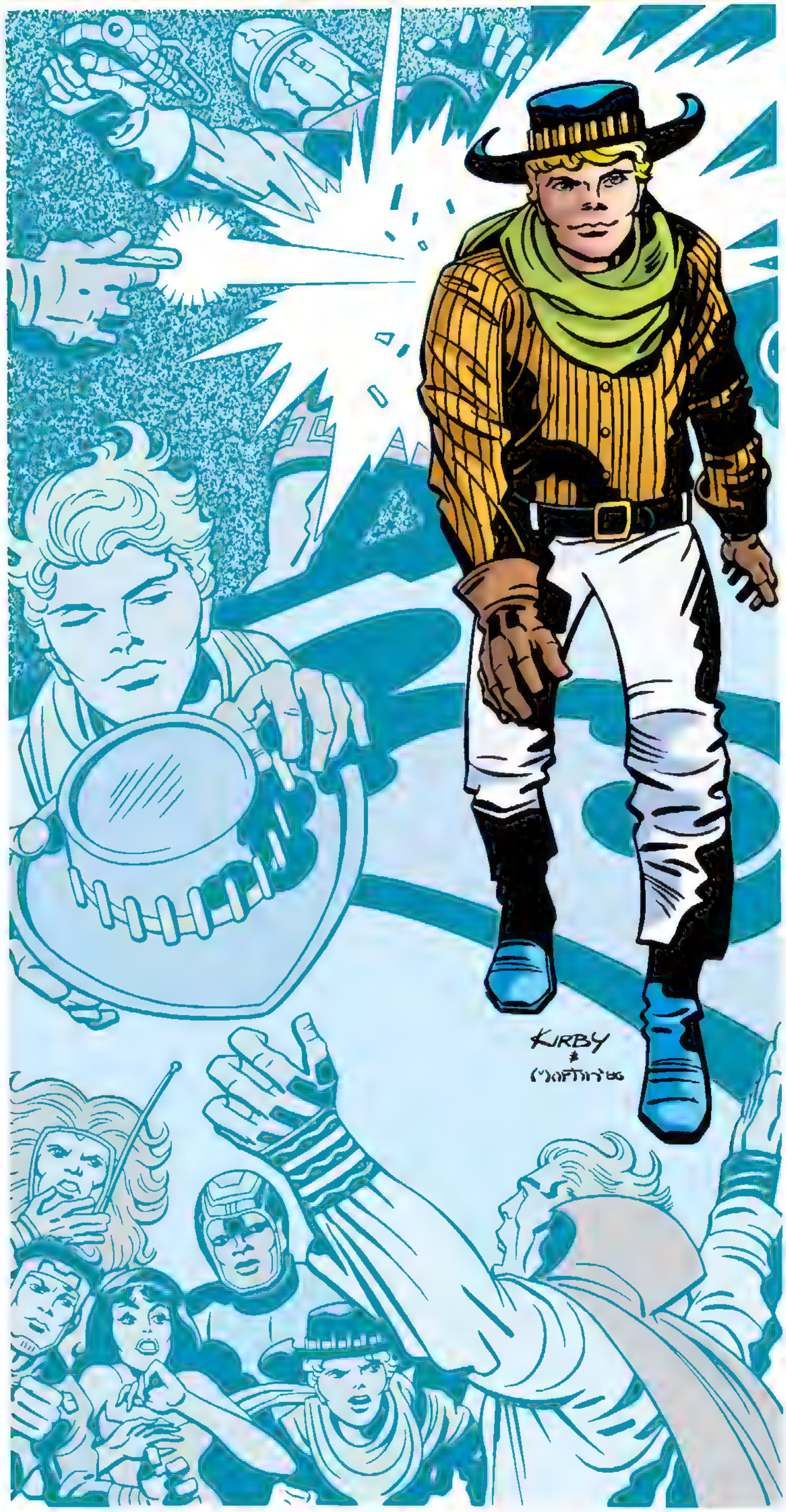
At one point Darkseid imprisoned the Infinity Man behind a strange barrier in an unknown area of space, apparently in another dimension. Infinity Man made the beautiful planet Adon his base in that realm.

At last Darkseid sent one of his deadliest assassins, Devilance the Pursuer, after the Forever People. To save themselves, the Forever People used their Mother Box to exchange places with Infinity Man. Devilance and Infinity Man were seemingly destroyed as a result of their battle, leaving the Forever People trapped on Adon. Fascinated by the idyllic paradise in which they found themselves, and sensing that new adventures awaited them, Serifan and his four friends set out to explore their new world.

POWERS & ABILITIES:
Serifan is a "sensitive" possessing limited telepathic powers.

In his hatband Serifan carries "cosmic cartridges" that serve various purposes. For example, the cartridges can be used to create a protective "shock-repelli-field," to create an antigravity effect, to generate high gravitational force, to generate intense heat, to power a vehicle, or to stun an opponent.

Art by Jack Kirby & Gary Martin



VYKIN THE BLACK

Alter Ego: **None**
Occupation: **Adventurer**
Marital Status: **Single**
Known Relatives: **None**
Group Affiliation: **The Forever People**
Base of Operations: **The distant planet Adon**
First Appearance: **THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1**
Height: **6'1"** Weight: **201 lbs.**
Eyes: **Brown** Hair: **Black**

HISTORY:
Little is known of Vykin the Black's early life on the planet New Genesis except that he numbered among his friends Beautiful Dreamer, Big Bear, Mark Moonrider, and Serifan, who together with himself would be known as the Forever People.

When Darkseid, Master of the planet Apokolips, kidnapped Beautiful Dreamer and took her to Earth in an attempt to discover the Anti-Life Equation which would enable him to control all sentient beings in the universe, Vykin and the other Forever People came to Earth to rescue her without first obtaining the consent of New Genesis' leader, Highfather. The four male Forever People summoned the mysterious Infinity Man, and, confronted by both the Infinity Man and Superman, Darkseid was forced to release Beautiful Dreamer.

The five Forever People then decided to remain on Earth for a time to learn about the planet and to combat Darkseid's future plans there, although again without Highfather's permission. The Forever People found two Earthmen who possessed the Anti-Life Equation, and it was their interference that prevented Darkseid from gaining possession of it. (One of the men was sent into the past by Darkseid's Omega Effect; the other was accidentally killed by one of his own guards.)

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POWERS & ABILITIES:
Vykin the Black possesses "magna-power," which enables him to project magnetic energy. He can also mentally trace atomic patterns and is therefore good at tracking.

Vykin has a keen mind and is a skilled hand-to-hand combatant. It is Vykin who carries the Forever People's Mother Box–a kind of living, sentient computer.

Art by Jack Kirby & Karl Kesel

Pinup art by Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta from THE FOREVER PEOPLE #4

Pinup art by Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta from THE FOREVER PEOPLE #4

Pinup art by Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta from THE FOREVER PEOPLE #4

Pinup art by Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta from THE FOREVER PEOPLE #4

Original pencils for page 15 of THE FOREVER PEOPLE #6

Original pencils for page 2 of THE FOREVER PEOPLE #8

BIOGRAPHIES

JACK KIRBY

Jack "the King" Kirby's comics career began in 1937 and continued for nearly six decades. With partner Joe Simon, Kirby drew and/or created numerous features, including Captain America, the Young Allies, the Sandman, the Newsboy Legion, and Manhunter. During the 1940s and '50s Simon and Kirby were responsible for numerous titles and concepts, including *Fighting American*, *Boys' Ranch*, and the creation of the romance comics genre. In 1961 the first issue of Marvel's *The Fantastic Four* cemented Kirby's reputation as comics' preeminent creator, and a slew of famous titles followed that elevated him to legendary status, such as *The Incredible Hulk*, *The Avengers*, and *X-Men*. Kirby returned to DC in 1971 with his classic Fourth World Trilogy, which was followed by *The Demon*, *OMAC*, and *Kamandi*. Jack Kirby continued working and innovating in comics until his death in 1994.

VINCE COLLETTA

Vince Colletta began his comics career in 1952, starting out as a penciller before switching his focus to inking. After establishing himself as a mainstay artist for the romance genre, he went on to contribute work to nearly all of Marvel Comics' new superhero titles in the early 1960s, inking primarily over Jack Kirby's pencils on such titles as *Daredevil*, *The Fantastic Four*, and a long run on the Mighty Thor feature in *Journey into Mystery*. He followed Kirby to work on the Fourth World books for DC, and went on to provide inks for a wide variety of other titles, including *Batman*, *Superman*, *Green Lantern*, *Wonder Woman*, and *Super Friends*. Colletta also served as DC's art director from 1976 to 1979. He passed away in 1991.

MIKE ROYER

Mike Royer began his comics career assisting the legendary Russ Manning in the 1960s on *Magnus, Robot Fighter* and *Tarzan* for Gold Key. In the 1970s he went on to ink and letter Manning's *Tarzan* and *Star Wars* syndicated newspaper strips. During this same period, Royer also pencilled and inked stories on his own for the Warren anthologies *Creepy*, *Eerie*, and *Vampirella*. However, his best-known works are undoubtedly his numerous collaborations with Jack Kirby on *The New Gods*, *The Forever People*, *Mister Miracle*, *The Demon*, and *Kamandi* for DC Comics, as well as *Captain America*, *The Eternals*, and many other titles for Marvel Comics.

Following his partnership with Kirby, in 1979 Royer began a long association with the Walt Disney Company, where he worked in the creative department of the consumer products/licensing division. In 1993 Royer left his staff position to freelance for the Disney Stores creative group. He continues to freelance for various companies from his home in Oregon.

THE FOREVER PEOPLE

Jack Kirby reinvented the superhero genre with his sprawling saga of the Fourth World—a bold storytelling vision that was decades ahead of its time.

In honor of this extraordinary talent's centennial, DC Comics is proud to re-present the groundbreaking work of the King of Comics in a brand-new series of trade paperback editions, collecting his classic DC titles in all their four-color glory!

Meet Beautiful Dreamer, Big Bear, Mark Moonrider, Serifan, and Vykin—the Forever People. When the nefarious Darkseid, ruler of Apokolips, kidnaps the telepathic Beautiful Dreamer from New Genesis to hoard the secrets of the Anti-Life Equation for himself, her comrades set out in hot pursuit and arrive on a strange planet called Earth!

Possessing advanced technology and extraordinary abilities surpassing anything that any human has seen, the Forever People decide to remain on Earth to learn more about its culture and defend it against further attacks from Darkseid. Armed with their high-tech Super-Cycle and the mother box, the living computer that allows them to summon the indomitable Infinity Man, the Forever People may be young compared to their fellow New Gods, but they are seasoned fighters against the dark forces of Apokolips.

This astonishing addition to Jack Kirby's Fourth World saga further reveals the extent of Kirby's stunning imagination. THE FOREVER PEOPLE BY JACK KIRBY collects THE FOREVER PEOPLE #1-11 and includes a bonus gallery of character profiles and pencil art.

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SON OF ULTRON